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To Our Readers

Beginning early next year the stocks page will be transmitted from Arab News London Bureau every night and appear the next morning.

Readers who are interested in charting the progress of a stock on a major world market are requested to give details and specify on which market the stock is listed.

Please write, before Dec. 31, to:

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Naval siege against Iran, U.S. warns

WASHINGTON, Dec. 19 (Agencies) — United States is ready to take non-military action such as a naval blockade against Iran if American hostages are put in public trial or brought before a tribunal. A White House, in a formal statement on Tuesday, warned Iran it faced grave if it publicly humiliated the hostages and ended the crisis that began when students of the U.S. embassy in Tehran Nov. 4. Under the statement, reporters were told that the United States was prepared to take military action — but would not shed blood if the hostages were put on trial. It was emphasized that a naval blockade was only one form of non-violent military action now being considered by President Jimmy Carter as a possible response if Iran ahead with action the United States has said it must not take. The White House believes a naval blockade would effectively disrupt Iran's imports through the Gulf. There were indications that Carter was also of economic sanctions to be imposed by the United States alone or through international action if the United Nations Security Council agreed. The White House press secretary Jody Powell said that decisions had been made and would be carried out if the hostages were put in public trial before a tribunal. The U.S. government would consider using hostages as witnesses in an investigation.

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CARACAS: Oil Ministers of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries seen above before OPEC's meeting in Caracas.

OPEC accord likely

By Bob Lebling and Jim Landers

CARACAS, Dec. 19 — OPEC's pricing conference appeared ready to end disagreement Wednesday morning after three days of talks which left Saudi Arabia and three other countries firm on a price ceiling of \$ 24 a barrel while Iran, Libya, Nigeria and Algeria held out for prices of as much as \$ 30.

Petroleum Minister Sheikh Ahmad Zaki Yamani made no statement before the pricing sessions on Wednesday morning but on Tuesday, Qatar's Abdul Aziz al Thani said his country would stay with a benchmark ceiling of \$ 24 for all of 1980.

Qatar's major crude, a lighter oil than the Arabian light, will be sold for \$ 27.50 a barrel. The disagreements over price could mean that OPEC will still not have control over the international oil market next year. Spot market sales dominated the market throughout 1979, and several OPEC delegations here fear that enormous stockpiling and a global recession will reduce the demand for the higher-priced OPEC crudes in 1980.

Venezuelan Minister of Energy and Mines Humberto Calderon Berti said Tuesday that the industrialized countries have stockpiled 4 billion barrels of oil, enough to add an "abnormal" one to two million barrels per day to the market throughout 1980 and beyond. Failure to reach a unified price structure for OPEC oil at this conference would make it more difficult to move ahead on the major strategies OPEC is considering for systematic price hikes — a structure for gas prices, a basket of currencies and other steps to protect OPEC from currency fluctuations and inflation exported from the industrialized world.

All of these major issues are due to be considered by the OPEC ministerial committee on long-term strategies, chaired by Yamani and composed of the six founding members of the organization. The committee is scheduled to meet immediately after the full pricing conference ends.

Gold price rises to \$494 an ounce

LONDON, Dec. 19 (R) — The value of an ounce of gold rose to a new and dramatic record of \$494 Wednesday.

It was the latest in a series of daily record-breaking prices reached by gold since the middle of last week, as world money markets react with anxiety to tensions in Iran and to the prospect of higher oil costs.

The metal was fixed at \$494.00 an ounce in the regular price-setting session of the key London bullion market.

Sharaf names Jordan cabinet

AMMAN, Dec. 19 (R) — Jordanian Prime Minister Mudar Badran resigned Wednesday and was replaced by the Chief of the Royal Cabinet Sharif Abdul-Hamid Sharaf.

Sharaf named a new cabinet which included Inaam Al-Mufti, the first woman in a Jordanian government since independence more than 30 years ago, as minister of social development.

The new prime minister also assumed the foreign and defense portfolios, both of which had been held by Badran.

The officials said Sharaf was succeeded in the post of chief of the Royal Cabinet by Ahmed Al-Loawzi, the speaker of the National Consultative Council and a former prime minister.

Political sources, however, said the new government was not expected to make any changes in foreign or domestic policies.

Only six members of the previous government were carried over into Sharaf's administration.

Following is a list of the new government: Prime Minister (also defense and foreign minister), Sharif Abdul-Hamid Sharaf; Interior, Ali al-Bashir; religious endowments, (awka), Kamel al-Sbarit; communications, Dr. Muhammad Negub al-Zabin; Information, Dr. Said al-Tal; culture and youth, Taher Hikmat; health, Dr. Zuhair Malhas; justice, Najih Ishtaid; education, Dr. Muhammad Norish; finance, S. Mas'adeh; tourism and antiquities, Dr. Mouafiq al-Fawwaz; public works, Maan Nuwar; transport and minister of state for prime minister's affairs, Ali Suhaimat; municipalities, Jamal Shawar; trade and industry, Ali Nsour; agriculture, Dr. Qassem Rimawi; supply, Dr. Jawad Anani; social development, Mrs. Inaam al-Mufti; and reconstruction, development and labor, Omar Nabulsi.

This figure was far above the record price of \$477.75 an ounce Tuesday afternoon. In Tokyo, the dollar zig-zagged against the Japanese yen in what traders called a "thin market," finishing the day at 239.75 yen, nearly two yen lower than Tuesday's close.

South Africa, the non-Communist world's major gold producer, is expected to push up output to cash in on the soaring bullion prices and the U.S. Treasury will likely auction off more gold early next year.

South Africa, the non-Communist world's major gold producer, is expected to push up output to cash in on the soaring bullion prices and the U.S. Treasury will likely auction off more gold early next year.



CEREMONY: King Khaled during a ceremony Wednesday at which the Fourth Joint Forces Division was graduated.

King attends

Joint forces unit formed

RIYADH, Dec. 19 (SPA) — King Khaled, supreme commander of the Kingdom's armed forces, Wednesday presided over ceremonies marking the graduation of the Fourth Joint Forces Division in Khassab Al-Ain.

The King was accompanied by Minister of Defense and Aviation Prince Sultan and Governor of Riyadh Prince Salman at the ceremonies at Farade Square at the town center.

Second Deputy Premier and Commander of the National Guard Prince Abdullah and his deputy, Prince Badr, also attended the ceremony honoring the combined services unit.

The King's day included a close inspection of the troops drawn up around the square, the ceremony itself, and in the afternoon he watched maneuvers by the troops.

Prince Abdullah said it was particularly appropriate to hold the ceremony now, in the wake of the successful armed forces operation against the renegades who took over the Holy Haram in Mecca late last month.

A large number of National Guard commanders, including Assistant Deputy Commander Sheikh Abdul Aziz Al-Tuwaijri, and Prince Abdullah and Prince Badr, greeted the King when he arrived in Khassab Al-Ain for the ceremony.

The King stood at attention as a military band played the national anthem, then boarded a jeep for the formal inspection of the troops.

Also in the jeep were Prince Abdullah; Gen. Ibrahim Al-Rashid, assistant operations secretary; and Royal Guard commander Gen. Abdullah Al-Busayli.

After the inspection, the King went to the reviewing stand, and the ceremony began with a recitation from the Koran, following which a number of officers delivered speeches or read poetry to mark the occasion.

The King then went on to watch a parade by the graduating unit, and then reviewed the

military maneuvers, during which live ammunition was used by the troops taking part.

Talking to newsmen, Prince Abdullah said he was proud that the King could attend the ceremony to honor the Joint Forces Division, formed as part of a program to develop the National Guard.

He said it was particularly heartwarming that the ceremony follows by just two weeks the final liberation of the Holy Haram from "renegades who meant to jeopardize the security of the state and profane Islam's holiest shrines; but God was great and saved the country from their vice."

He hailed the high spirits and morale of the National Guard and Army troops, saying that the operations in Mecca provided ample proof that "each man was willing to sacrifice his life for his country and his faith."

Officials have said that 60 Saudi soldiers were killed and 200 wounded during the fighting.

Prince Abdullah recalled the historic past of the Arab Nation, which managed to survive thanks to its faith and sacrifices.

Saud to visit Libya

By Younis Isshaq

JEDDAH, Dec. 19 — Foreign Minister Prince Saud Al-Faisal will pay an official visit to Libya Saturday.

The visit, at the invitation of Foreign Minister Dr. Ali Abdul Salam Treki, comes at a time when Libyan-Palestinian relations are at their lowest ebb.

President Muammar Qaddafi and PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat have traded accusations of treason.

Libyan Ambassador to Saudi Arabia Ahmad Fawzi told Arab News that Prince Saud's visit follows a recent exchange of visits between King Khaled and Col. Qaddafi.

He said that the visit aims at fostering bilateral ties and pursuing the steps taken by the two countries in a joint Islamic drive.

Mayors reject liaison offices

TEL AVIV, Dec. 19 (R) — Palestinian mayors of the occupied West Bank Wednesday rejected a suggestion that Egypt open liaison offices on the West Bank and the Gaza Strip as a "trick" to further a controversial autonomy plan.

Egyptian Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Boutros Ghali Tuesday proposed opening two liaison offices when Egypt and Israel opened their embassies in Cairo and Tel Aviv in February.

Dr. Ghali said the aim would be "to maintain contacts with the Palestinians people and get to know their demands."

But Bethlehem Mayor Elias Frei, who is generally considered a moderate, said: "The Palestinian mayors reject the idea outright. I, personally, am prepared to oppose such a move."

"It's a trick to get the autonomy plan implemented. We have turned it down immediately and we are not even prepared to talk about it with anybody, including the Egyptians."

The mayor of Halhul on the West Bank, Muhammad Hassan Milhem, said the only organization which could negotiate the political future of the occupied area was the PLO.

Key issue unsolved

Progress claimed on autonomy

CAIRO, Dec. 19 (AP) — Egyptian, Israeli and U.S. negotiators claimed Wednesday to have made unspecified progress on Palestinian autonomy but still appeared far apart on key issues such as Jerusalem.

At the end of the one day of talks Egyptian Prime Minister Mustafa Khalil noted that it took the Rhodesia talks 97 days to reach agreement, and that the seven-month old autonomy talks had not spent nearly as long working on a solution to the Palestinian problem.

Israeli chief delegate Yosef Burg told a news conference at the end of the seventh round of full dress negotiations that he believed progress made by a technical committee working on procedures for an election in the West Bank and Gaza would attract Palestinian support.

"We have made progress in working on an election system, election rights, how to vote and be elected, and I personally hope that the progress will show to the Palestinian Arabs that there will be a process of free elections and that it is worthwhile to participate."

In a communique issued at the end of the talks, the three parties "expressed satisfaction and appreciation for the progress achieved." The document said that "expert assistance" would be sought by working groups detailing the powers and responsibilities of a self-rule council for the Palestinians.

In answering questions from reporters Burg said that the Camp David accords specified it would only be "an administrative" council.

Khalil stepped in at that point and said "I don't really agree with you, to stick to definitions or rigid words. The only thing that really matters are what responsibilities will come out of our talks."

Israeli shelling hits Nabatiyeh houses

HASBAYA, Lebanon, Dec. 19 (Agencies) — The southern Lebanese market town of Nabatiyeh came under heavy shelling overnight, and villagers blamed it on Israel Wednesday.

"Many houses were destroyed in the three-hour shelling that ended at one o'clock after midnight," one villager said. "The shells came from deep inside Israel."

No casualty estimate was immediately available from the stricken area.

However, one report said the shelling of Nabatiyeh and nearby villages was mounted by artillery gunners of Maj. Saad Haddad, an Israeli-backed Lebanese army renegade leader holding a six-mile deep strip along the 59-mile border with Israel.

The renegade officer was bent on preventing Iranian volunteers from joining Palestinian commandos in the areas his gunners shelled, that report said.

Forty Iranian volunteers landed in Syria Tuesday and were to proceed to Southern Lebanon.

Israeli Prime Minister Menahem Begin called the possible arrival of the volunteers "disturbing." But said on

Tuesday, "we don't see it as any change. We will manage, only we will be watching the situation and keeping guard."

The founder of the Iranian force, Hujatollah Muhammad Montazeri, has said his men will enter Lebanon by force, if necessary.

In Beirut, Lebanese Foreign Minister Fuad Butros said Wednesday contacts were continuing with Syria on the question of Iranian volunteers.

"I believe the Syrian government will deal with the matter appropriately," he told journalists after a weekly cabinet meeting.

The volunteers got out of the plane at Damascus airport shouting "Palestine, long live Palestine."

All wore civilian dress. Those who arrived Tuesday had camouflaged and khaki uniforms.

There was only one veiled woman in the group, raising the total of women who have arrived with the volunteers to nine.

On arrival at Damascus airport, the volunteers were welcomed by a Fatch representative who drove them straight to join their comrades.

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On development

Algosaibi meets
Saudi consultants

By a Staff Writer

RIYADH, Dec. 19 — Minister of Industry and Electricity Dr. Ghazi Algosaibi Wednesday met with owners of Saudi Arabian consulting firms to discuss the newly established Saudi Consulting House.

He welcomed its cooperation with them and explained what the House will do in engineering industry and training according to SPA.

A permanent committee comprising representatives of the House and other consulting firms was formed during the meeting.

The SCF will act as any other consulting firm, bidding for work in international competition and enjoying no preferential treatment, according to its Director of Public Relations Mahmoud Qutub.

Speaking to *Saudi Business* recently Qutub said the House has a comprehensive mandate. It will carry out feasibility studies for all aspects of industrial projects, design and consultancy studies, legal consulting, marketing studies, technical and management services and supervision of private and government works of virtually any size.

The firm came into being at the beginning of June to replace the Industrial Studies and Development Center a branch of the Ministry of Industry and Electricity charged with supporting

Mass closure

of cafes ordered

JEDDAH, Dec. 19 — A health inspection has led to the closure of all restaurants in Somalia district by the University here. *Al-Bilad* reported Wednesday that the restaurants were ordered closed immediately because they either did not have a license from the municipality or their waiters did not have health cards. Health requirements set out by the municipality were also not respected.

The inspection committee confiscated a large quantity of unsafe canned food and destroyed utensils unfit for using for cooking. A total of seven restaurants, three grocer shops and a cafe were ordered closed for ten days in the same district.

development of industry in the Kingdom.

Dr. Algosaibi said the House was established to train a large number of young men in engineering and other consultancies to help development.

Since foreign consultants did not always take into consideration the traditions and customs of this country, the government decided to take it upon itself to play a role, he said.

He invited proposals for activities from consulting firms, which he promised to study carefully. The committee will be the link between the House and the firms.

With a far wider function than the ISDC, the House has been formally divorced from the government. Hussein Abuthir, the deputy vice-president for engineering, says that the only formal link it will have with the state is that Dr. Algosaibi is chairman of the board.

The government holds all of the SR165 million capital of the firm, although after three years half the shares will be offered to private investors.

Two American firms have been taken on to assist the House, on an initial five-year contract. The Arthur D. Little Company will be responsible for industrial feasibility studies and developing the House's manpower, and the Leo A. Daly Company will help with engineering designs.

As much work as possible will be done in the Kingdom but when neither the House's own staff nor the American companies can handle a particular job, it may be contracted out to others in whole or part.

Abuthir said that the House is probably the largest consultancy company working in the country, bigger than the operations of major Western firms here. It is big, he said, so that a comprehensive service may be offered.

There is no formal requirement for government agencies to favor the House. It has to be treated as any other consultant, obliged to bid in international competition. Nor will the House's size and government interest swamp growing private Saudi consultants. "There is room for all of us," Abuthir says.



GOODBYE: Foreign Affairs Ministry officials, including Salem Sumbul, the chief of protocol, say goodbye to South Korean Ambassador Yangsoo Yoo at a party given in his honor.

'No interference necessary'

Gulf will defend itself, Sultan says

RIYADH, Dec. 19 (SPA) — Minister of Defense and Aviation Prince Sultan has said the Gulf states will not permit any foreign intervention to capture the region's resources.

Speaking to *Al-Jazira* newspaper Wednesday, he said they will oppose any attempt to interfere in their internal affairs or encroach upon their sovereignty, whatever the form that intervention might take.

There is no truth to what some prejudiced foreign media are saying about occupying the oil fields, he said. "There is nothing to warrant such matters being discussed. We consider the Gulf one of the most stable and peaceful areas in

the world, as well as one of the least troubled ones."

Asked about a recent arms purchase agreement with the United States, Prince Sultan said it was one of a series of deals aimed at strengthening the Saudi Arabian armed forces which the country is concluding with friendly Western states.

The announcement of the deal was a result of an American decision to approve it, he said, expressing satisfaction with American cooperation with the Kingdom.

He said the Kingdom was continuing a process of diversifying sources of arms. He welcomed any constructive cooperation that served Arab and Muslim interests.

He said the now defunct Arab Organization for Industrialization is in the process of being dismantled. As soon as that is completed a new Arab arms industry organization will be set up, whenever and wherever the Arabs decide.

The AOI was set up after the 1973 War as a joint venture between Egypt, Saudi Arabia, Qatar and the United Arab Emirates to provide self-sufficiency in armaments. After the Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty this year, though, the organization was suspended and later dissolved. Prince Sultan has spoken of setting up a Gulf arms manufacturing body along the same lines.

WEATHER

It will be unsettled in the north-eastern, eastern and central regions, with possible scattered rain. There will be a drop in temperature in those areas.

Cloud will cover the northern and southern regions. There might be scattered thunderstorms. Sky will be cloudy to partly-cloudy in the western region.

Winds will be northerly to north-westerly and moderate. They will be active in the north-eastern, eastern and central regions, causing sand storms.

Seas will be moderate. Wednesday's temperatures (maximum, minimum in centigrade)

Mecca	28	17	Jizan	31	23
Jeddah	27	22	Wajh	21	18
Riyadh	23	10	Turaif	10	03
Dhahran	21	09	Arar	16	03
Medina	23	14	Sulayyil	25	10
Taif	23	14	Abha	17	11

In U.S.

Interior offers computer course

JEDDAH, Dec. 19 (SPA) — The Ministry of the Interior is to organize three year computer programming courses in the United States. Applicants should be holders of intermediate school leaving certificates, according to *Al-Jazira* Wednesday.

Graduates will be appointed lieutenants in the Interior Ministry security forces. Conditions announced for applying were that applicants should be Saudi Arabian nationals, they should be between 18 and 24 years, they should have an intermediate school leaving certificate for the year 1979 to 1980, their average standard should not be below very good, with average marks not below 75 per cent in mathematics and physics. They should pass a personal interview and test and should have a good conduct certificate.

Applications are to be presented to the General Directorate for Regulations and Programming of the Ministry of the Interior in Riyadh before Jan. 15.

Successful candidates will attend a three month qualifying session in Riyadh.

Riyadh University has meanwhile agreed to a proposal from the Faculty of Higher Studies that students sent abroad to study foreign languages be treated as assistant lecturers abroad. The courses last between 16 and 32 weeks, and one year for students who hold doctorates.

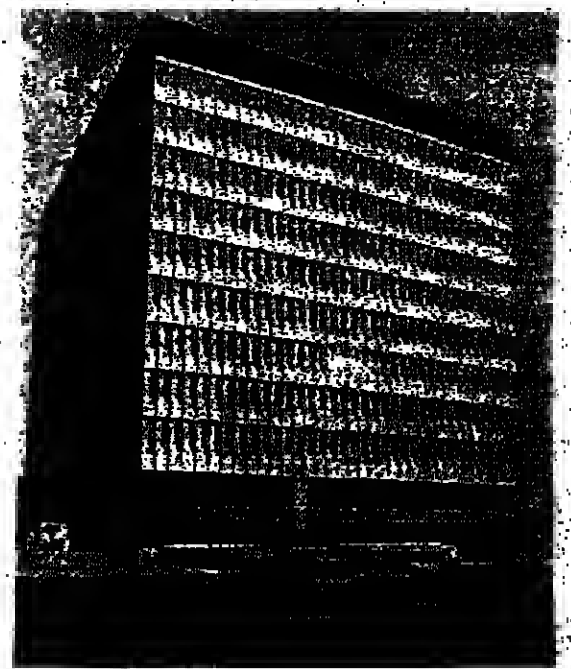
They will also be allowed to carry research, handle manuscripts and carry out field studies. Meanwhile, the Education Directorate of the Eastern Pro-

vinces is organizing a Scout training session for 25,536 students at an estimated cost of SR851,121. They will be held in scout camps in Dammam, Sayhat, Qatif, Rahima, Al Khobar and Tarot.

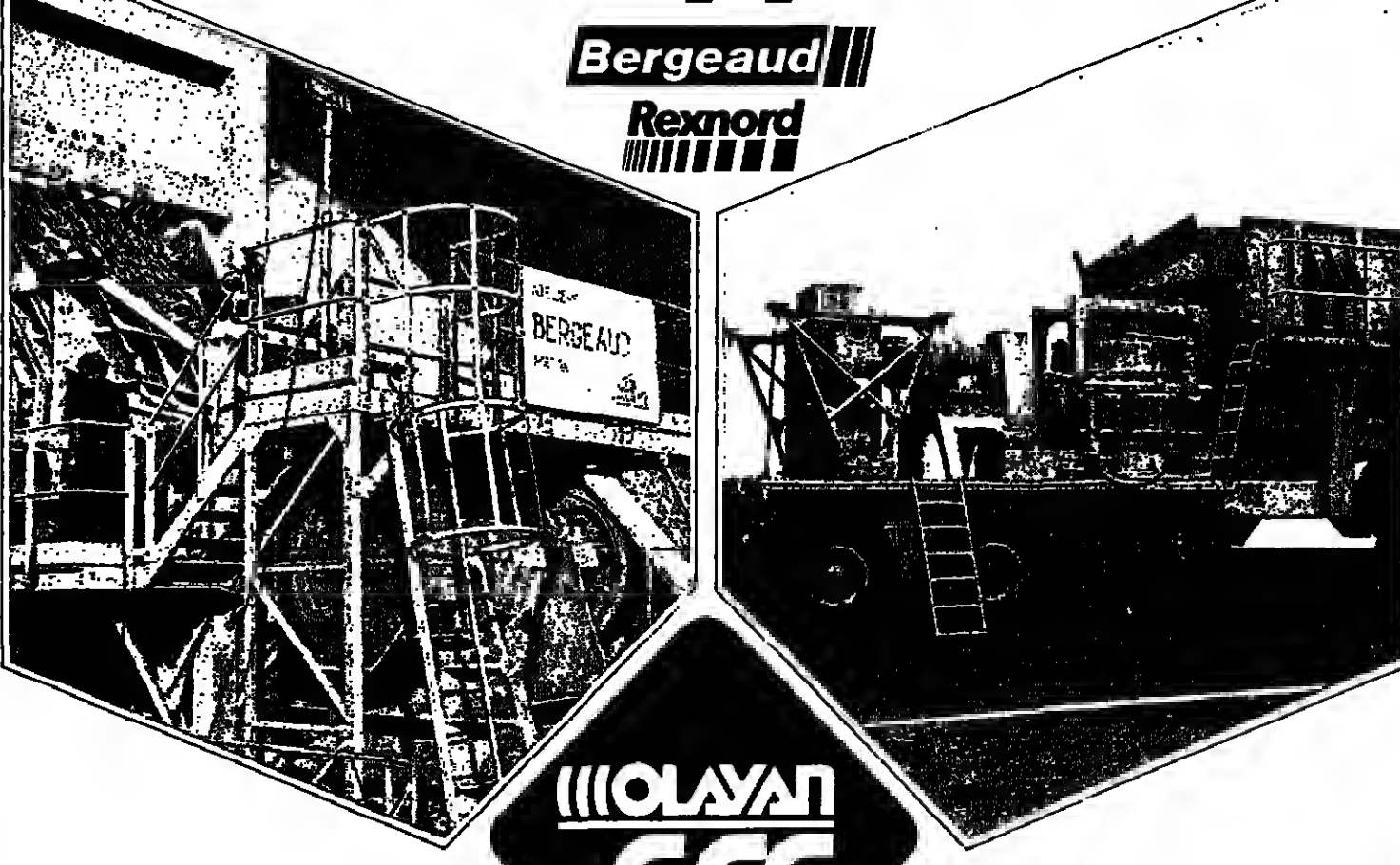
The courses involve camping, trips, public service, competitions, cultural and sport activities, hold

seminars and lectures, training in electricity, plumbing, photography and other activities.

It was also reported Wednesday that an Arab doctor in the Kingdom's hospital in Kharij is teaching 46 Filipino nurses Arabic, to enable them converse with patients and Arab colleagues.

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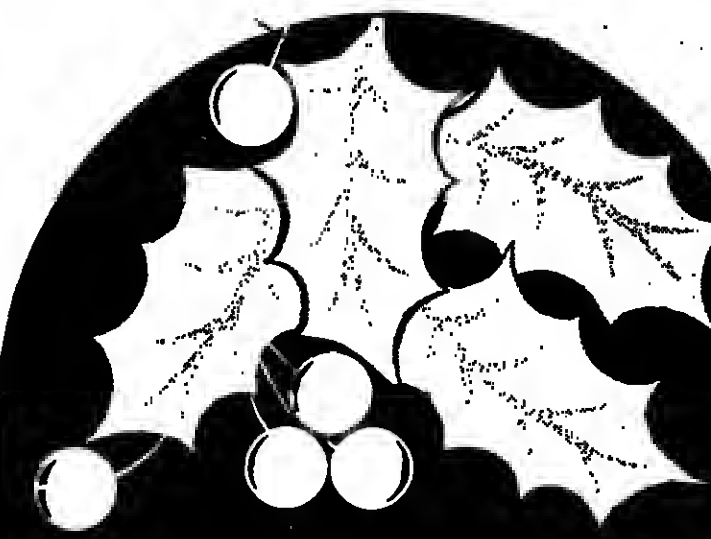
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Need for training stressed

RIYADH, Dec. 19 (SPA) — The Council of the Civil Service has requested the Public Personnel Bureau to study the position of Saudi Arabian women who have taught for a long time and cannot continue their education because of their careers.

Abdul Rahman Muhammad Al-Sarhan, the general secretary of the council, said after a meeting Tuesday that lack of qualifications has prevented some women teachers from being promoted to higher posts in education.

The meeting discussed the importance of further training, and said it was an essential part of any career. It has advantages both in better performance on the job and more experience for the employee.

Employees who have served for long time tended not to take opportunities for training, particularly those older. Sarhan emphasized that they should get more experience and improve their qualifications.

The council agreed to appoint Ahmad Abdul Aziz Al-Lih to the 13th grade in the Ministry of Health, and Issa Munir Al-Barak to the post of the general director of the Office of the Chairman of the Public Personnel Bureau in the 13th grade. Shaker Abdullah Al-Shihri was appointed director of the Public Control Bureau, in the 12th grade.

Miteb awards surfacing deal

RIYADH, Dec. 19 (SPA) — Minister of Public Works and Housing Prince Miteb, who is also acting minister of municipal and rural affairs, Wednesday awarded a SR4.5 million contract to a Saudi Arabian firm for the surfacing of a number of streets at Uqra.

Riyadh information talks will seek common stand

MANAMA, Dec. 19 (SPA) — Bahraini Minister of Information Muayad Al-Muayed said Wednesday that meetings of Gulf ministers of information that begin in Riyadh Saturday will lay out a strategy to oppose what he said is a foreign press intimidation against the Gulf region. Muayad told 'Al-Khbar' Al-



(Photo by Mohammed Ibrahim) NATIONAL DAY: The embassy of Bahrain celebrated its country's national day at a reception at the Kandara Palace Hotel this week. From right to left are the ambassadors of Qatar and Oman, the Bahrain charge d'affaires, the secretary general of the Organization of the Islamic Conference, the head of Foreign Ministry Protocol and the ambassadors of Iraq and the United Arab Emirates.

Miteb announces

More martyrs' donations received

RIYADH, Dec. 19 (SPA) — Minister of Public Works and Housing Prince Miteb, in his capacity as the head of the welfare fund created to help families of the martyrs of the Holy Haram, has announced the receipt of donations ranging from SR1 million to

SR5. Among the donors were: Ahmad Hamad Al-Gosaibi and Bros. SR1 million; The Korean Company Sam Ho. SR50,000; The Traffic Institute in Riyadh (first instalment). SR35,000; Khaled Omash Al-Faqir, SR11,000; Karim Yaacoub Al-Shahri, SR10,000; Ajab Sobha Khan, SR10,000; Ahmad Muhammad Ba Faraj, SR10,000; Salem Abdullah Ba Faraj, SR10,000; Hammoud Ali Al-Khalaf, SR50,000; Ali Ibrahim Al-Majzoui, SR30,000; The Sixth Intermediate School for Girls in Medina, SR5,300; Muhammad Ismail Yasin, SR5,000; Abdullah Sulaiman Ba Sahl, SR100,000; Amira Salam Ba Sharahil, SR250; Emad Salem Ba Sharahil, SR100; Said Aqlan Yamani, SR50; Hanifa Kbantoun Baramawi, SR5; Mahmoud Waddah Khan-toun, SR10.

By Abu Al-Khail

Medina Sheraton opened

JEDDAH, Dec. 19 — Minister of Finance and National Economy Sheikh Muhammad Abu Al-Khail formally opened the Sheraton hotel in Medina Wednesday. It is the most recent in the company's chain across the country.

Sheikh Muhammad cut the ribbon at a ceremony attended by John Kapioltas, president of Sheraton, and other dignitaries. Sheikh Saad Al-Nasser Al-Sudairi, deputy governor of Medina, was also present.

The hotel has 250 rooms, of which eight are royal suites and 24

regular suites. It cost more than SR400 million to build. It is owned by the Ministry of Finance and National Economy and managed by Sheraton.

Saudi Comment

By Abdul Momen Al-Dawood Al-Riyadh

There is no question but that we need a large number of foreign workers of all kinds, especially skilled. They help us carry out our development projects all over the country and in many fields. They contribute to our overall plan for a developed society. But there are obviously some negative aspects about their presence here.

These include the sharp differences between our way of life and traditions and their customs and attitudes.

But we shall continue to need their help for some time. That is a fact because many of our people refuse to learn and practise some of the skilled professions, as if they believe they are above of them, as if they are unworthy of men of their caliber. This is made worse by the sparse population of this country and the absence of a solid base of technical expertise.

These are some of the reasons for the delay in opening and operating some projects like training

centers and hospitals. The dearth of technically trained people is forcing the government to hire foreign personnel.

But this is not so easy to do, as since the Public Personnel Bureau insists on hiring local hands as much as possible by advertising any vacancy twice.

Only if 100 applicants are then available will permission be granted to hire foreigners.

This is understandable in order to promote the employment of Saudi Arabian personnel. But we also know that Saudi Arabian workers are increasingly attracted to the private sector, which makes it difficult for government departments to get what they want.

I suggest that the commission should make clear what jobs cannot be filled by foreigners except by advertising their vacancies twice, including administrative, typing and some technical jobs. For those many Saudi Arabians are available.

This will remove the absurdity of having to advertise every vacancy twice. It means a lot of wasted time and delay to the dedication of vital projects.

Riyadh U to establish nursery to further curative plant studies

JEDDAH, Dec. 19 — Riyadh University is to grow plants with uses in medicine in Dirriyah. The nursery, the first of its kind in Saudi Arabia, will supply plants to the Medical Plant Research Center at the University.

The center believes that a quarter of plants indigenous to the Kingdom have a beneficial effect on cancer. Dr. Ibrahim Al-Mishal, the center's supervisor, told Al-Medina in a statement published Wednesday. Mishal is also the director of the scientific cooperation program between Riyadh University and Purdue University, Indiana, in the United States.

He said that the center is charged with thoroughly examining the curative qualities of all plants in the Kingdom. Results of further study on those thought able to fight cancer will be announced shortly, he said.

Riyadh University has an agreement with Purdue for joint scientific research between both their faculties of pharmacology.

Mishal said that plants capable of fighting disease were identified by their traditional use or effects on animals, and when analysed they proved to be effective.

Some of the plants were men-

tioned in the Holy Koran or the Hadith, like 'Al-Sawal', a plant the twigs of which are used as toothbrushes, Mishal said. They had many such plants under study, he added.

The Faculty of Pharmacology has provided the unit with a laboratory with advanced medical instruments.

The unit's services, in addition to training Saudi Arabian univer-

sity graduates, cover analysing some drugs which depend on traditional medicines. It also deals with some poisonous plants and carries out other services like analysing water and food, Mishal said.

The faculty has established the Medical Plants Research Center to support research in the faculty. The unit has visited many parts of the Kingdom and collected sam-

Dr. Ibrahim Al-Mishal



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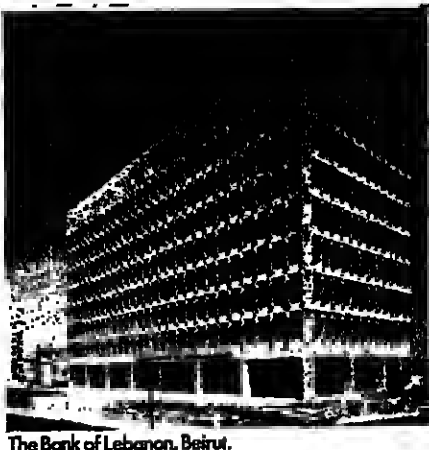
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Gen. Zia ponders steps to deal with student violence

ISLAMABAD, Dec. 19 (AP) — President Muhammad Zia-ul-Haq said Wednesday government is actively considering taking effective measures to restore peace, tranquility and a normal atmosphere in the educational institutions.

According to a group of teachers at Quaid-e-Azam University in Islamabad, Zia said the government may promulgate a new law to regulate the working of universities to solve all such problems. It was informed that Quaid-e-Azam University has been the center of student troubles for the past two days.

Three students were injured at the university when two rival groups of leftist students clashed with knives and pistols. One student had been taken a hostage for four hours Monday. The university had refused admission to students in higher classes because of their poor marks in the exam-

nations.

The teachers informed Zia "a situation of complete lawlessness" is prevailing in the university campus, rendering it impossible for them to continue teaching and research works.

Zia expressed regrets over the incidents and said "maintenance of discipline and peace in all educational institutions is the government's responsibility. The government is considering all possible measures to rid the seats of learning of hooliganism."

Student violence has been reported from other universities in the past, but the government has generally taken a lenient view, in order not to provoke further trouble.

The students of Quaid-e-Azam University had spearheaded the attack on the American embassy in Islamabad Nov. 21, in which the embassy was gutted and two American servicemen were killed.

The United States later evacuated nearly 400 American dependents and non-essential staff from Pakistan. Fourteen students are currently under arrest and are awaiting trial in connection with the attack.

Meanwhile, students angered by the award of an honorary degree to Nobel Prize winner Dr. Abdus Salam fired on police during clashes at Islamabad University Tuesday.

Two students were hurt when police used baton charges and tear gas to restore order, unconfirmed reports said.

Dr. Salam, who shared the 1979 Nobel Prize for physics, is a member of a minority sect which strict Muslims do not consider part of Islam.

The students belonging to the religious Jamaat Islami Party have been demonstrating for two days to try to stop the conferment of Salam's degree by President Zia, who is the university's chancellor.

The award was made Tuesday despite the unrest.

Student sources said the gunmen fired on the police from an upper story of the university.



Gen. Zia-ul-Haq

2 Russians said killed in Kabul

ISLAMABAD, Dec. 19 (R) — Two Russians were killed in Kabul last week as they toured the city's old bazaar area without an escort, according to travelers who reached Pakistan Tuesday.

They were the latest victims of strong anti-Russian sentiment in the country following the Soviet Union's overt backing of Kabul's left wing government.

The attack on the Russian was the first since President Hafizullah Amin came to power in a palace revolution on Sept. 14 which toppled Nur Muhammad Taraki.

Earlier this year up to 100 Russians were killed during uprisings in Herat and Jalalabad.

Quoting diplomats in Afghanistan, the travelers said there was evidence of an increased Russian presence in the capital, but according to the diplomats there were no visible signs of large-scale Soviet troop movements into the country.

They reported that the number of helicopter gunships at Kabul airport had increased along with new Soviet weapons supplies, coinciding with Amin's major offensive in the last two months against the tribal rebels who are trying to overthrow the government.

In Kabul, apartment blocks which previously remained empty were now occupied by Russians, all in civilian dress.

Estimates on the number of Soviet civilian and military advisers in Afghanistan varied from five to ten thousand, the travelers said.

Israel arrests 15 Arabs in W. Bank

TEL AVIV, Dec. 19 (AP) — Israeli troops arrested 15 Palestinian youths in the occupied West Bank Tuesday night when they stoned an Israeli bus hours after soldiers used their gas to break up a mourning procession that turned violent.

A military spokesman said youths in Halhoul, 13 miles south of Jerusalem, threw stones at the bus, shattering windows and injuring at least one Israeli woman passenger.

Halhoul Mayor Muhammad Vilhem was taken to a military government headquarters in Hebron for investigation about the incident, Israel radio reported.

Vilhem and other West Bank sources complained that Israeli troops who entered Halhoul to quell the disturbance broke into a local shop, struck two doctors and a religious leader and damaged equipment in the shop.

According to the radio, several armed Israelis on the bus tried to get off to confront the stone throwers, but the driver failed to stop.

The disturbances were sparked by the weekend murders in Cyprus of Palestine Liberation Organization officials Ibrahim Barghieth and Samir Toukan.

About 1,000 Palestinian demonstrators set out Tuesday morning from Halhoul to Beit Omar, a nearby village where Barghieth was born.

As the procession moved along the road, some of the demonstrators stoned passing Israeli vehicles. Troops ordered the demonstrators to disperse, and lobbed tear gas at them.

Israeli news reports claim that Barghieth was the PLO operative in charge of commando attacks in the West Bank.

Until Tuesday, the military government in the West Bank appeared to be taking a liberal attitude toward officially banned political activity by the mayors. But Israel television reported that the military governor had instructed officials to remind Arab leaders that anti-Israel activism was forbidden.



(AP photo)

MAN OF THE MOMENT: One of the most widely known faces in the world today, is that of Ayatollah Khomeini as he leaves his home in Qom Friday to greet the thousands of Iranians waiting for a glimpse of their leader. He is the cause of rage in the United States as the hostage crisis drags on. With one word Khomeini could set them free.

Omani copter crash kills 2 soldiers

MUSCAT, Dec. 19 (AP) — An Omani air force helicopter caught fire and crashed Wednesday in the southern province of Dhofar killing two soldiers and injuring three others, according to an official report. The report said the crash was caused by a technical fault.

Panama mayor warns Shah's foes

PANAMA CITY, Dec. 19 (AP) — Panama City's mayor warned residents against protesting the presence of the ousted Shah of Iran on the nearby Panamanian island of Contadora. A spokesman for the mayor's office said Tuesday that only peaceful demonstrations would be permitted. Some 300 leftist students angered at the Shah's presence on Panamanian soil broke windows at the U.S. embassy here and the government lottery office Tuesday. At the embassy, they hauled down the American flag and dragged it along the ground, shredding it.

Rightist militias free 3 Syrians

BEIRUT, Dec. 19 (R) — Three Syrian soldiers, captured by rightist militiamen 12 days ago, have been released, a spokesman for the Arab Deterrent Force (ADF) said Wednesday. The men had strayed into the eastern district of Beirut where they were detained by rightist militiamen controlling the area, according to an ADF statement.

Nyerere, Saddam Hussein hold talks

BAGHDAD, Dec. 19 (R) — Tanzanian President Julius Nyerere held talks with President Saddam Hussein of Iraq Wednesday on the development of relations between the two countries. Nyerere arrived in Baghdad Tuesday for a three-day visit at the head of a team including the foreign and education ministers. The Iraqi News Agency quoted Hussein as saying such meetings were vital for the establishment of strong relations and wider cooperation among developing states.

Israel raises gas by 30 %

TEL AVIV, Dec. 19 (Agencies) — Israel Wednesday raised the price of gasoline by 30 percent following price increases for imported oil and the devaluation of the Israeli pound.

Under an order by the energy ministry high grade 94-octane gasoline will now cost 75 cents a liter and diesel fuel costs 29 cents a liter.

Electricity rates are also expected to go up by 30 percent in the next few days.

Last month Israel returned to Egypt the Alma oilfields in Sinai, which provided 25 percent of its fuel requirements and is now totally dependent on imported oil.

Officials have been urging Israelis to save energy, warning that next year's national oil bill could reach \$2 billion.

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The secret life of Leonard Ingrams

By TANIA SCRIVENER

RIYADH — By day, he has guided one of the most powerful centers of finance in the world. By night, he has twined off-duty bankers, hospital administrators, telephone engineers, housewives, secretaries and children out of their fear and lethargy into music.

Leonard Ingrams leaves Riyadh today after five years as an advisor to the Saudi Arabia Monetary Agency on a secondment from Baring Brothers of London and five years as the most important catalyst behind what has become a thriving musical life in Riyadh and Jeddah.

Scientists, mathematicians and bankers often make the best musicians. They see beauty in discipline. A precise man of quiet wit, Ingrams is of this breed. He has worked his musicians mercilessly but because he has given them a pride in their work and seemed so necessary a part of life here it is with as much surprise as sadness that the two cities watch him go.

He is a founder-member of the Riyadh and Jeddah Concert Committees, he was for two years conductor of the Hejaz Choral Society (1975 to 1977) and, when he moved to Riyadh in 1978, started a regular Sunday evening of music.

Baton

At the Hejaz Choral Society, safe mixtures of popular songs and light opera had been the staple until Ingrams appeared with his

passion for Mooteverdi, Brahms and Peter Warlock. There was opposition in some quarters to this sudden infusion of complex music: "But all the words are foreign," Soon, however, large audiences turned up for concerts which included Purcell's *Come ye Sons of Art* and Handel's *Coronation Anthem for King George II*. "Sixteenth century four-part motets? Benjamin Britten?", the doubters asked. "Yes, yes," would come the impatient reply, as he would rummage through heaps of

family knew well such leaders of the English musical renaissance between the wars as Holst and Vaughan Williams. The violin was his first instrument and he played with the National Youth Orchestra at the Royal Festival Hall when he was fifteen. Later he studied in Munich before going on to Oxford, where he was a classical scholar.

Viola

Soon after he arrived in Jeddah, Ingrams discovered at an ambas-

Scientists, mathematicians and bankers often make the best musicians. They see beauty in discipline. A precise man of quiet wit, Ingrams is of this breed.

music. "All choirs are the same: they're built out of nothing, you'll do it beautifully on the day."

Viola

Ingrams sang with his local church choir in Chelsea and picked up most of his knowledge from the conductor, John Hoban, who now heads the well-known *Scuola di Chiesa*. He was brought up in a house where music was always given first importance. His

savior's house what was the only music happening in Jeddah: a cellist and a pianist. They needed a viola player. He took up the instrument. After the ambassador and his wife left in 1976, Ingrams took over what had become regular Monday evenings of music.

In general, Ingrams dislikes being a soloist, preferring the role of conductor. "As long as they can play and above all count," he says, any group of people can perform.

His work in the Jeddah and later the Riyadh Concert Committees has been at least as important as his private music-making. Early in 1977, he and the pianist John Hill, head of the British Bank, organized the purchase of a grand piano.

Piano

Then Mme Caroline Haffner, a concert pianist, came to town. With the backing of former Ambassador Sir John and Lady Wilton, the last piece fell into place and the Jeddah Concert Committee had an instrument, a stage, and contacts in Europe and the United States. Since those early days, which included a concert with Ingrams playing viola and Mme. Haffner at the piano, the committee has brought Foo T'song, the Humphrey Lyttelton Jazz Band, the tenor Ian Partridge and many others to Riyadh and Jeddah.

While the Jeddah concerts are held in the British Ambassador's garden, the Riyadh performances have been in Ingrams's own large villa which he and fellow committee members have emptied of furniture and filled with metal chairs and where he has entertained many of the visiting artists.

On Sunday, Dec. 9, Ingrams took his last bow at a carol concert: baton in air, now rapping, now imploring his choir: "Come along now altos and sopranos, we want a really good discord there—fortissimo."

After five years, Leonard Ingrams is leaving. He will be missed.



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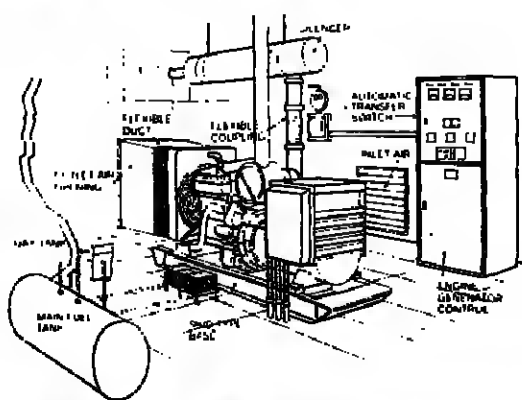
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The Caribbean crisis may be about more than Cuba

By Jeremy Taylor

PORT OF SPAIN, TRINIDAD —

It is beginning to dawn on the Caribbean that the sudden discovery by President Jimmy Carter of Soviet combat troops in Cuba may have had less to do with the Cold War and hawkish senators than with energy.

Carter's solution — increased American naval patrols and maneuvers in the Caribbean, a new Caribbean 'task force' at Key West in Florida — were at first seen as sabre-rattling, and as Carter's only way to dump a phoney 'crisis' and placate domestic demands for firm action.

Now it is clear that the result has been a much increased American surveillance of the region. The aim may have been, in the end, to safeguard crucial energy supplies in a region which is shifting markedly leftwards.

There are even fears in the Caribbean that the U.S. may be prepared to intervene to protect its own interests.

Up to a quarter of America's oil supplies have been passing through Caribbean export refineries and trans-shipment terminals. The world's largest refinery is in the region — Amerasia Hess's 728,000 barrel-per-day installation in St Croix in the Virgin Islands.

Hess has a 150,000 bpd refinery and trans-shipment terminal under construction in Saint Lucia, which became independent from Britain in February and installed a new left-leaning government in July. There is acute dissatisfaction with the Hess agreement there, not least because the island will receive 4 cents per barrel refined, compared with the 16 cents Trinidad gets from Texaco.

The Trinidad refinery exports to the U.S. as do other major refineries in the Netherlands Antilles, the Bahamas, and the Caymans.

Only Trinidad exports its own oil; but Barbados is now producing about a third of its own requirements, and there is intense exploration going on in Guyana, and due to start in Jamaica, Puerto Rico

(which has yet to hold its referendum on independence) and Cuba.

Trinidad, like Venezuela and Mexico, is also sitting on huge reserves of natural gas, causing the U.S. to view it with paternal protectionism. The Caribbean also supplies 65 per cent of America's bauxite and aluminium, and U.S. investment in the region runs to more than \$4 billion.

From Washington, it looks as if all of this can be put at risk as the region is pushed deeper into political and economic crisis by under-development and unemployment, plus the desperate pressure put on island economies by the spiralling price of energy.

Seen in terms of oil politics, it looks as if the region is moving quickly out of the American orbit: the March coup in Grenada, then new leftist governments in Dominica and Saint Lucia — where next? Aid has been quickly stepped up, in the hope of damping down this blazing oil slick; and in Dominica, international pressure has been sufficient to get two of the more radical ministers in the

new government fired.

But all this looks very different in the Caribbean itself. There has been sharp criticism of the new American presence. And there is hardly a country in the region, not even the closest friends of the U.S., Barbados and Trinidad and Tobago, who would countenance direct American intervention.

What are seen in the U.S. as potential Caribbean trouble spots — Grenada and Saint Lucia — are seen in the Caribbean as potential breakthrough points for the sort of political and economic change that has to come in some form or other. Not every Caribbean government shares that view, of course: Port of Spain and Bridgetown are cool, to put it mildly. But it is being asked what function an increased American military presence can have, if not an intervention capability.

And direct military intervention could do more to destroy U.S. energy sources in the region than a dozen new governments friendly with Havana — (OFNS).

WHO'S IN CHARGE THERE?

President Carter has admitted his confusion about Iranian intentions regarding the American hostages held in the occupied embassy in Tehran. The American president was commenting on the statement made by Sadegh Gotbzadeh, Iran's foreign minister, in which he said that the hostages might return home before Christmas, which was followed the next day by a statement from the students in actual control of the embassy, in which they reiterated the original intention of bringing the hostages before a court on espionage charges.

The source of this dramatic discrepancy is not hard to guess at. The Iranian ministry of foreign affairs has been placed in the front line by the students' action. The ministry has been able to gauge the depth of the international reaction to the incident, and the embarrassment it has caused among Iran's closest friends. On the other hand, the students are free from any such constraints. They pursue their chosen path heedless of the consequences, an uncomfortable example of power without responsibility.

The pressures to which the foreign ministry has been exposed has accounted up to now for two foreign ministers. There was first Dr. Ibrahim Yazdi who was, it appeared, a direct casualty of the incident, when the whole of the Bazar-gati government in which he served collapsed. Then came Abol Hassan Bani Sadr, who started by taking up an extreme position, only to find out very quickly that the situation was impossible, and had to resign.

This was reflected in the case of the present foreign minister, Gotbzadeh came in as a hardliner, but has now moved considerably along the path of moderation. The encouraging sign is that he has not yet been asked to resign; which means that the moderate view has its supporters now within the ruling circles.

The final word about the fate of the hostages will come from Ayatollah Khomeini. And if he appeared most recently to side with the students against the foreign minister, this does not mean, since the minister appears to be secure in office, that the line given out by the foreign minister has been totally rejected.

Jagjivan Ram and an Indian village — his own

By Majumal Hasan

CHANDWA, India —

India's most distinguished untouchable, opposition leader Jagjivan Ram, is not the best loved man in his village — a cluster of primitive mud huts surrounding his own very modern house.

Ram, 71, fighting hard to become the country's first Harijan (untouchable) premier, was last in Chandwa in northeastern Bihar state in 1976 when the house was built on the site of his ancestral home.

"We are proud of him. He is the son of the village. But he never cares much for us," complains Nand Lal, who pulls a rickshaw in nearby Arrah town.

Ram's two-storey house in the Harijan quarter of the small village is opened once a year for cleaning. The house is the only physical change Chandwa has seen since it can remember. The road to the village is brick paved and rutted.

There are no drains. People defecate in the fields at night or before daybreak. But Ram's house has modern sanitation facilities. Electricity has reached the village, but its residents are too poor to afford a connection.

"He has done nothing for us," says Mahadev Ram, the opposition leader's next door neighbor who runs a tiny shop.

"Jagjivan Bahu has piped water. We draw from a village well that becomes unusable during monsoon rains," he adds.

The villagers feel they have no choice but to accept the situation. "What can we do? It is our fate," says Kanwar Dayal.

Like most Indian villages, Chandwa is structured on a caste basis. The Harijan quarter is separated from the homes of upper caste Hindus by a marshy pond. The two groups have separate wells.

Ram, who has been a cabinet minister for 32 years but for two brief interruptions, says: "I know my village has problems. But nothing much has been done in tens of thousands of Indian villages. Why should Chandwa be an exception?"

Grievances against Ram are aired by his constituents in Sasaram, 96 kilometers away. He has represented the constituency in parliament since 1952 and again seeks re-election next month.

"After he wins he leaves the constituency never to return," says Girish Mishra, a local politician who was once a close associate.

Other critics say he has neglected his poor constituency as he has his own village.

Ram reacts irritably to the charge. "There were no roads, no post offices, no irrigation facilities. I gave all this," he says.

But a district official says: "Six months ago he was criticizing the state government for not providing means for irrigation."

For Ram, who leads the opposition Janata Party, a severe drought in his constituency has come at the wrong time. The paddy crop has perished. There is not much hope that the winter crop will fare any better.

Thousands of farmers have abandoned homes to work in other districts. Hundreds more are employed on government projects.

"I have never seen a more severe drought since the famine of 1966," recalls Ram Dhari, a small, low-caste peasant. "We are eating out of our last year's reserves. God knows what will happen after we finish that."

Ram, who has held eight portfolios including agriculture, had a scheme prepared for a dam in the area eight years ago. But it is yet to be built.

He also has to bear the brunt of widespread resentment against his own Janata Party which rules Bihar. "I have no kerosine to light a lantern. You can't buy sugar... not even salt in the market because it is not there," says Abdul Salim angrily.

Roads have become so unsafe that drivers are advised to keep off them after dark. Hold-ups have become dangerously frequent. Murders are not uncommon.

The Janata Party hopes Ram will attract the crucial Harijan votes across India, but he is finding it tough holding his people solidly behind him in Sasaram.

There is a perceptible shift in loyalties from him to former Premier Indira Gandhi. Her image as a messiah of the poor and low castes remains undimmed despite her harsh emergency rule which led to her 1977 election defeat.

Mrs. Gandhi's candidate in Sasaram, Maheshwar Paswan, also Harijan but not from Ram's sub-caste, is exploiting the former Janata government's failure to curb caste violence.

Ram was deputy premier in the government when it fell last July.

Sasaram is notorious in Bihar for the violence against Harijans. Last year 13 people were killed and 75 injured in caste riots.

But Ram, who resents being described as a Harijan leader, says: "This is nothing unusual. There are atrocities against Harijans in other areas as well."

"The increase in the outrages is because Harijans have started asserting themselves. There is a greater awakening among them," he adds.

Gyadar Das, a vegetable seller in Sasaram town, says: "Once we did not even have the right to speak. Jagjivan Bahu has helped us to find our voices." — (R)

saudi press review

Newspapers Wednesday led with King Khaled's officiating at the graduation ceremony of the fourth combined services group, and his meetings, notably the one with Habib Chatti, the secretary general of the Organization of the Islamic Conference.

Al-Jazirah published an exclusive interview with Minister of Defense and Aviation Prince Sultan in which he asserted that the Gulf was one of the safest areas in the world and that any talk about plans to take over the oil fields was unwarranted.

Front pages also headlined the Saudi denial of a Washington Post and New York Times report according to which a U.S. delegation will discuss with Saudi officials "possible facilities for U.S. forces in the Middle East." They also dealt with the OPEC meeting in Caracas, Libya's arrest of Palestinian officials, the shootings in

Iran, gold's record price in Zurich, and the Lebanese crisis.

Al-Jazirah wrote editorially that King Khaled and Crown Prince Fahd were doing their best to arm and raise the combatative capacity of the army and that the best proof of this was King Khaled's assistance at Wednesday's graduation of the fourth combined forces ground.

Commenting on the same subject, Okaz said that "Wednesday will be the day of the National Guard and the Armed Forces as the supreme commander (King Khaled) will honor the men who proved their worth in defending their religion and their nation" — a reference to the successful operation at the Holy Haram in Mecca.

It said that Saudi Arabia was "championing the cause of justice and abiding scrupulously by the Law of God or Sharia which made it different from all other coun-

tries."

Okaz added that "as the King Wednesday will shake hands with the cadets, he will in fact be congratulating heroes who proved that they were the soldiers of God and the shield of Islam after they had put an end to the abominable desecration of the Holy Haram."

Al-Bilad said that Wednesday's graduation ceremony confirms what Crown Prince Fahd told the Council of Ministers Monday — "that the Mecca incident will not deter us from strengthening ourselves at home and carrying out our role toward the problems of our nation which role will continue as long as our eternal faith will survive. That role will get bigger and bigger as the challenges to our Arab and Islamic worlds get stronger, the prince added."

The paper said that Wednesday will be "the day of force and devotion militarism."

Recalling the siege of the Holy Haram on the first day of the new year of the Hijrah calendar, Al-Medina said that the attackers proved to be a group that had gone astray and challenged God to a sort of duel by invading his sacred House.

It quoted Crown Prince Fahd saying that the incident will in no way slow down Saudi Arabia's development process, no more than it will change the Kingdom's foreign policy, essentially directed towards the support of Islamic and Arab rights.

It said that "such a style was in line with the true concept and fitness of Islam for all eras."

On the ministerial meeting in Caracas, Venezuela, of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC), Al-Riyadh, in its editorial entitled "Saudi Moderation," said that "such moderation did not only prompt Saudi

Arabia to increase oil production, but made it insist on that any price increase should be moderate so as not to harm world economy."

It said that "the increase announced a few days ago by Saudi Arabia was none else but the last that had previously been decided for the last quarter of the current year 1979."

Al-Nadwa lambasted the Washington Post and the New York Times for their report that an American envoy is to visit Saudi Arabia to discuss facilities for U.S. forces in the Middle East. It said that "such reports were only aimed at distorting the image of Saudi Arabia and casting suspicion about it in retaliation for the Kingdom's nationalist stances."

It said that "Saudi Arabia, like the United States itself, had every right to shape its foreign policy according to its own interests and to the requirements of the Arabs' prime cause."



White House Years

Sadat expels the Soviets (V)

EDITOR'S NOTE: As the Middle East negotiations ground to a halt, Kissinger decided that the attempt to reach a comprehensive settlement should be abandoned and, instead, Egypt and Israel should seek an interim agreement on the Sinai. He describes the gulf between Israel's insistence on no border changes and the Arab demand for a return to the frontiers as 1967 and says that he began to try to separate the issues of sovereignty and security. Egypt would get the Sinai, Israel would maintain military outposts on the peninsula. Kissinger was pleased that the Soviets were beginning to be seen by their Arab friends as impotent, which he virtually told Ambassador Dobrynin in Washington.

Egypt Opens a Secret Channel to the United States

Sadat had visited Moscow in February 1972. Things were not going smoothly between Egypt and the Soviet Union. On April 8, I felt confident enough to advise Nixon that the Soviet-Egyptian relationship was clearly more reserved than in Nasser's time. We understood that Sadat had asked for advanced weapons and Soviet diplomatic and military support on a scale reminiscent of what was extended to India during its conflict with Pakistan, to enable Egypt to build its own arms; he had been given assurances of weapons but no blank check of diplomatic or military support. Egypt was pressuring Moscow, but Moscow had clearly calculated — as we had hoped — that since we had gone to the brink over

Pakistan, a challenge to the survival of Israel would create uncontrollable risks. And the Kremlin did not stand to gain from building up in Egypt an arms industry that would drastically reduce Cairo's dependence on Soviet supplies. I told Nixon my impression was that the Soviets were holding Sadat at arm's length, fearful of the risks of all-out support, and awaiting my talks with Dobrynin. As usual, they wanted everything; Egyptian subservience, minimum risk, and the complete Arab program. But diplomacy rarely works that way: those who grab for everything, who forget that politics is the art of the possible, in the end may lose all.

A more tangible reason for my confidence was that in the first week of April 1972 Egypt had opened a secret channel to the White House.

On April 5, a high Egyptian officer told an American official in Cairo that Egypt was dissatisfied with existing diplomatic channels to the United States. In his government's view it was essential we communicate at the Presidential level, bypassing both foreign ministries. The Egyptians suggested that either Helms or I visit Cairo, alternatively, Hafiz Ismail, my opposite number as national security adviser to President Sadat, might come to Washington. I cannot say that I was shocked or offended by the proposition that both sides bypass the foreign ministers. Indeed, I considered it the precondition of success. When the report of Egyptian approach reached me on April 8, I immediately wrote on it a note to Al Haig, my deputy: "Al: How about Ismail to Washington?"

Yet, preoccupied with the Vietnam offensive and then my forthcoming trip to Moscow, we did not respond immediately. We wanted to see what Moscow would have to offer in the Channel. We also heard that Sadat would visit Moscow again at the end of April and we did not propose to give the Egyptian party a response which might leak to the Soviets. Above all, a measured pace fitted in with our strategy of creating in Egypt the maximum restlessness with the status quo. So it was not until April 29, while Sadat was in Moscow, that we finally sent a reply to wait him on his return. We said that we were indeed interested in a secret high-level meeting; a representative of President Sadat would be welcome in the United States for that purpose. But no meeting could take place until after the Moscow summit. We calculated that the prospect of a meeting after the summit would serve as a greater incentive for restraint than an earlier talk which in the nature of first contacts was bound to be inconclusive. Two weeks later the Egyptians replied that our proposal was being studied, and that we would receive a formal reply in June after the summit. This fitted in nicely with our strategy.

In the meantime, there were mounting indications that tensions between Egypt and the Soviet Union were growing. Sadat's April visit to Moscow apparently heightened his worry that the

Soviet Union might settle for the status quo in the Middle East. Even an airlift of advanced Soviet equipment in April and May did not require his underlying uneasiness. On May 22 I sent Nixon 'Assessment that the relationship between Sadat and the Soviets was now one of a worried client to his patron rather than that of equal partners with confidence in each other.

Later on, I came to know Sadat as one of the few truly outstanding leaders I have met. He possessed that combination of insight and courage which marks a great statesman. He had the boldness to go to a war no one thought he could sustain; the moderation to move to peace immediately afterward; and the wisdom to reverse attitudes hardened by decades. But in 1972 none of this was apparent. Sadat had made many threats that he had not carried out. In the Jarring negotiations he had been more flexible than his predecessor, but he had apparently not yet renounced Nasser's delusion that he could insist on unfulfillable demands because of the hacking of Soviet arms. We had no regular dialogue with him. None of our emissaries had ever managed to penetrate the charming manner to discover what Sadat really thought. Until the secret channel opened in April 1972, most of our serious dealings had been through Moscow. My reaction to this overture, therefore, was largely tactical: to continue to bring home to Sadat the futility of his course while opening a dialogue by which we hoped to change it.

This was also the background to our Moscow summit discussions on the Middle East. Because of Vietnam and SALT preoccupations, these came only at the end of the summit, when, in a long-night session, Gromyko and I worked out some "general working principles" for an overall settlement; their vagueness was bound to raise additional questions in Sadat's mind. The principles were weaker than Resolution 242; they stated that border rectifications were possible (omitting the modifier "minor," which had become sacramental on official documents); the formulations were ambiguous about the extent of intended Israeli with-

drawals. I have never understood why Gromyko accepted them, unless it was exhaustion — after all, he attended even more meetings than I did in Moscow and worked even longer hours. In all events, the principles quickly found their way into the overcrowded limbo of aborted Middle East schemes — as I had intended.

Gromyko and I also agreed on the text of a final communique that did no more than urge a peaceful settlement and endorse the Jarring mission; it offered no concrete guidelines for it or any other negotiations.

This bland communique was to have historic consequences. It was a "violent shock" to Egypt, Sadat records in his memoirs. It proved to be a decisive blow to his relations with the Soviet Union.

All this time, the Egyptians were being treated to the unnerving experience of our three-tiered diplomacy. They were exchanging messages with us through the secret channel; they were receiving the Soviet version of our summit conversations and my talks with Dobrynin and they were exposed to the regular State Department overtures to win Egypt's agreement to enter the proximity talks. It must have been a bewildering set of procedures, though it left Cairo in a better position to know what messages were being passed than either the White House or State. For key State cables were not only not shown to the White House for clearance; so far as I can tell now, records of State talks with key Arabs were not even sent to the White House after the event. We therefore often learned what had been transmitted in State channels only after it had been played back in a reporting telegram from some Arab capital briefed by Cairo. Thus, for example, we did not learn of a secret overture to Cairo for proximity talks until well after the fact, nor did we know of a conversation between Sisco and Prince Sultan of Saudi Arabia in June — in which Sisco sought to engage Sultan's help in persuading Egypt to agree to such talks — until it was mentioned in a report from Riyadh on July 18. Equally, State did not know of our secret to Cairo channel (I doubt that many textbooks on political science will commend these procedures.)

Strangely enough, except for the nervous strain on the participants, our procedures did no damage. Egypt had, after all, initiated the secret White House contact because it had lost confidence in normal diplomatic procedures. And in June, Cairo turned down the State proposal for proximity talks — without, however, significantly reducing State's legendary dedication to the unattainable.

Sadat was now playing for higher stakes. On July 13, we received an ambiguous message through the secret channel. It reiterated the willingness to send a senior representative to Washington, provided we had something new to propose. In the absence of any different initiative Cairo saw no point in a meeting. The corollary was, of course, that we could produce a high-level Egyptian representative by the simple device of indicating that we were willing to explore new approaches.

Before we could fully assess the implications of this Delphic message came the July 18, 1972, bombshell of Sadat's announcement that he had terminated the mission of the more than 15,000 Soviet military advisers and experts in Egypt. They were to be withdrawn within a week; military installations and equipment set up in Egypt since 1967 were to become Egyptian property.

The decision came as a complete surprise to Washington. (That day I was on my way to Paris for a secret meeting with the North Vietnamese.) To be sure, my strategy had sought to induce Cairo to lessen its reliance on the Soviet Union. I had expected that at some point down the road, Sadat would be prepared to offer to trade Soviet withdrawal for progress with us. But still handicapped by my underestimation of the Egyptian President I never guessed that he would settle the issue with one grand gesture, and unilaterally. My first reaction on hearing the news that he had acted impetuously and forfeited an important negotiating asset, for no return. Two days later I prepared a longer and more reflective analysis.

It has been apparent in the last months that the Egyptians have resigned themselves to the fact that

there will be little diplomatic movement on the Arab-Israeli problem this year because of the US elections...Despite this apparently rational calculation, Sadat has faced the dilemma of how to avoid allowing inaction to produce a permanent freeze of the situation...Frustration over the lack of movement on the Arab-Israeli issue has been high in Cairo...The US-USSR Summit confirmed the sense that nothing was going to happen this year and brought to a head criticism of the Soviet role that had been going on in Cairo even before the summit. Heykal, the influential editor of Al-Ahram who favored talks with the US last summer on an interim settlement, began a series of public debates about the Soviet-Egyptian relationship in April...

By then I had come to the conclusion that Sadat's decision might not be nearly so precipitate as I had thought at first. I noted that Sadat explicitly rejected any restrictions on the use of arms supplied by the Soviets. I speculated that this statement "may well refer to the possible fact that the presence of Soviet advisers with Egyptian units could serve as a Soviet brake on Egyptian offensive movements." My overall assessment summed up four possible motives on the part of Sadat, one of which was to improve his military options for the following year (that is to say, 1973):

(a) the necessity to respond politically to internal frustrations; (b) the necessity to keep, and show himself keeping, the Middle East from becoming completely frozen in this year of indecisions; (c) the desirability of seeking greater Soviet support for offensive action in taking these steps to offer an enticement to the US by showing that he could cut back on the Soviet relationship.

Sadat made two more speeches on July 24 and 27. Thought he alleged that he had been tied to in 1971 by the United States, he reserved his heaviest fire for the Soviet Union. Sadat pointed out that he had warned Moscow before the US-Soviet summit that Cairo could not accept a continuing state of "no war-no peace"; the summit demonstrated that Soviet support for Egypt fell far short of American support for Israel. Sadat's second speech was

an indirect appeal to the Soviet Union to learn from the shock and to Cairo to develop an alternative military option for use in the future. Egypt, proclaimed did not want Soviet soldiers in its battles. Egypt had no interest in causing a confrontation between the superpowers. But Sadat had to understand that Egypt, the Middle East power, was its top priority, when it might rank on the Soviet agenda. Our friend must know appreciate this. To him, the item might be number five...Hence, the pause will friend so that he will appreciate the battle. When Soviet-Egyptian cooperation runs in this field the way it is in the technological field, ever will be wonderful.

Much has been written about the failure of the Union to live up to the promise of restraint to which it pledged itself at the Moscow summit. Of the criticism is valid. But record would be neither correct nor fair without pointing out the Soviet Union paid heavy price for its essentially putting Mideast on ice at the summit. It did not exercise restraint out of altruism. It less Israel's strength was the chief deterrent. The Kremlin assessed that a war risked a confrontation with the United States. And the Soviet Union needed American grain and support for ratification of German treaties, could not generate a crisis in so serious an area. But it is precisely way that a strategy of "deterrence" poses both risks and incentives to encourage Soviet restraint, posed to work. In 1972, when the United States was fully engaged in Vietnam, the Union held back from ending its clients' positions in the Middle East and this decision cost dearly. Our demonstration of firmness on India-Pakistan on Vietnam (not to mention conflicts in the autumn of must have convinced the K that one more crisis would load the circuit. Coupled with firmness, our conciliatory posture in Moscow and the prospect of further moves on trade to produce Soviet restraint.

KIOSK Goings-on about town

Jeddah

An exhibition of paintings, photographs and pen-and-ink drawings at the Redec Center off Medina Road.

Riyadh

Saturday, Dec. 22 and Sunday, Dec. 23. French art exhibition at the Riyadh Palace Hotel open daily at 10:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.

Wednesday, Dec. 16 to Thursday, Jan. 3. Riyadh Players production of Cinderella at the Military Mission. Curtain time is 7:30 p.m. and tickets are on sale at the Nejd Hotel.

Dhahran

Thursday, Dec. 20 to Thursday, Dec. 27. North African weavings and crafts are on display at the Arab Heritage Gallery in Al Khobar. Prince Saad Street of Pepsi Cola Road next to the Prince Sultan Mosque. Daily 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. Tuesday and Thursdays from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. as well.

Exhibition of paintings by Mr. Sano and Mr. Thorncraft at the Souks Restaurant, Souks Shopping Center, Dhahran. Open 10:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. daily.

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Carter vows to fight for 5 per cent boost in military spending

WASHINGTON, Dec. 19 (AP) — U.S. Defense Secretary Harold Brown has told skeptical congressmen that President Jimmy Carter "will do everything he can" next year to win approval of a rise in defense spending of 5 per cent over the rate of inflation.

However, several members of the House Armed Services Committee Tuesday remained doubtful, suggesting that the proposed increase was simply a ploy to win reauthorization of SALT II.

"One of the major problems is credibility," said Rep. John Beard (R-Tennessee). Brown told the committee that Carter's proposal, which also calls for a five-year increase in defense spending of 25 per cent above 1979, "will be fully and actively supported by the administration when it is submitted in January."

The administration unveiled its defense plan last week — one month earlier than usual — in response to demands from pro-military senators who have sought increases in defense outlays in

exchange for their support of SALT II.

Senate debate on the U.S.-Soviet strategic arms limitation treaty is expected to begin early next month.

While being greeted with skepticism by pro-military congressmen, the president's defense spending proposal drew sharp criticism from liberals.

Rep. Ronald Dellums (D-California) attacked the proposed defense budget as "bloated and wasteful," and vowed to tell the nation's mayors how the proposal "will starve the cities" by diverting money from social to military programs.

"President Carter has acquiesced to a militaristic view," Dellums charged. "President Carter has now declared war on our cities and our poor."

Brown responded to Dellums' remark by contending that defense spending — when inflation is not considered — is smaller than it was in 1963 while non-defense spending has nearly tripled.

In foreign sales

J.S. debates nuclear safety question

WASHINGTON, Dec. 19 (AP) — A spokesman for President Jimmy Carter's administration has said that if the United States is to curb export of nuclear power that may hurt the environment of other countries, a backstop could drive them to buy from their suppliers.

"We can't impose our own standards," said Michael Guhin, director of the nuclear export office at the State Department, Tuesday.

His view was sharply challenged by representative Clarence Long, Maryland Democrat who heads the group on foreign operations in the committee on appropriations.

He said, "the question may be asked: Should the United States government become involved in ensuring that our nuclear exports are safe? My response is, it is our responsibility because it is our interest."

Long cited what he considers inadequacies in the regulation of

nuclear plants by poor countries.

The Philippine Atomic Energy Commission wrote the U.S. Regulatory Commission, he said, that it lacked both the expertise and the experience to evaluate a report on the plant proposed for the Bataan Peninsula. The Philippine government has since suspended building the plant pending further work on safety.

On nuclear regulation in other countries, he said:

—Brazil. The problems of the Angra I plant may be "no less severe" than those on Bataan.

—India. At the Tarapur plant there is "widespread contamination and extremely high radioactive levels."

—Mexico. Although international missions have visited the Laguna Verde Plant and found several deficiencies, later missions reported that little attention had been paid.

—South Korea. He cited Jim Wook Chung, professor of nuclear



Harold Brown

Brown also said increased defense spending is needed if the United States is to maintain military equality with the Soviet Union.

"We must decide now whether we intend to remain the strongest nation in the world," Brown said.

"Or we must accept now that we will let ourselves slip into inferiority, into a position of weakness in a harsh world where principles unsupported by power are victimized."

A leading Pentagon ally, Rep. Samuel Stratton (D-New York), said he was glad to hear the administration position, but said he remained skeptical of its intention to follow through after the SALT II debate is over.

Sanjay to run for seat in parliament

NEW DELHI, Dec. 19 (AP) —

Former Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi's controversial son Sanjay who is facing trial in more than 10 criminal cases, is concentrating on winning a parliamentary seat rather than on his legal battles.

In a new case filed this week, India's Central Bureau of Investigation charged Sanjay with illegally selling part of a steel allotment meant for his automotive firm to private dealers between 1971-75.

Sanjay wielded enormous clout during his mother's 11-year regime, particularly during the 1975-77 state of emergency. He never held a government or party post but spearheaded a birth control program of forced sterilizations that led to a backlash against his mother's government.

Mrs. Gandhi and Sanjay were defeated during the 1977 election and both are contesting the January 1979 poll from the same constituencies, Rae Bareilly and Amethi.

The CBI did not say how much money was involved in the sale of the steel, but the case is the latest in a series involving young Gandhi, who is facing charges of attempted murder, assault and armed robbery. He was convicted and sentenced to two years' imprisonment last February for his role in the destruction of a film critical of his mother's regime. He is free on bail pending an appeal before the supreme court.

In the case involving attempted murder, a police official claimed Sanjay attacked him with his followers during a May riot in New

Rome tycoon freed after ransom

ROME, Dec. 19 (Agencies) — An Italian millionaire kidnapped more than three months ago was released unharmed by his captors here Tuesday night after ransom payment of about \$1 million.

Angelo Jacorossi, 43, who with his three brothers runs one of the largest gasoline and domestic fuel supply firms in the Rome region, was snatched by armed men Sept. 11 near his luxury home in the southern part of the city.

Police said kidnappers had originally demanded \$25 million.

More than 70 people have been kidnapped in Italy this year.

Police said Jacorossi was in good condition when he walked into his home.

Jacorossi was one of 70 known kidnap victims in Italy so far this year. Eleven of the abducted, including a 10-year-old son of a wealthy farmer, are still held by their abductors.



Sanjay Gandhi

Delhi. A conviction could mean a life imprisonment sentence.

An official inquiry into Sanjay's automotive firm, Maruti, reported recently that his mother breached government rules to help her son's factory.

Since his candidacy was announced last month, Sanjay has been campaigning almost continuously in Amethi, according to family sources.

U.N. chooses information panel

UNITED NATIONS, Dec. 19 (AP) — The U.N. General Assembly has established a committee to monitor and promote U.N. and global information operations and systems.

The committee is a continuation of the former committee to review United Nations public information policies and activities.

A resolution adopted Tuesday by the assembly requested the committee "to promote the establishment of a new, more just and more effective world information and communication order intended to strengthen peace and international understanding."

Such an order, it said would be "based on the free circulation and wider and better balanced dissemination of information."

Another resolution asked the U.N. Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization

(UNESCO), which is based in Paris, to continue work on plans for cooperation and assistance in improving national information and mass communications systems.

The director-general of UNESCO was also asked to study the possibility of establishing an international fund for the development of communications.

The resolutions were recommended to the assembly by its special political committee which debated the issue at length earlier in the session. The committee approved the resolutions without a vote "in a spirit of compromise," and the assembly similarly adopted them without a vote.

The only speaker was Chilean Ambassador Sergio Duez, who said he joined in the consensus approval of the resolutions even though they did not fully comply

with suggestions made by the Chilean delegation.

He said his government, and 14 others, had suggested that the resolutions include clear provisions on ensuring freedom of information.

The assembly also elected 19 countries Tuesday to the governing council of the U.N. environment program and renewed its stand against marine pollution by oil tankers.

The resolution on marine pollution called for adherence to the 1954 international convention for the prevention of pollution of the sea by oil. Countries which have signed the convention were urged to carry out their obligations and those who have not yet signed it were urged to do so.

Another resolution urged countries to step up their contributions to the U.N. program to combat the spread of deserts.

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DAY-FRIDAY, DECEMBER 20-21, 1979

U.S. citizens group charges

Little food reaches Cambodians

WASHINGTON, Dec. 19 (AP) — A fraction of the food and supplies sent to Cambodia is reaching the people, many of whom still face death from starvation and malaria, a citizens commission on Cambodia has said.

Cherne, chairman of the U.S. Commission on Cambodia, said Tuesday that the House of Representatives has passed a resolution that as of Nov. 24, 71 tons of the 22,619 tons of food sent to Cambodia had been distributed.

Cherne, chairman of the U.S. Commission on Cambodia, said Tuesday that the House of Representatives has passed a resolution that as of Nov. 24, 71 tons of the 22,619 tons of food sent to Cambodia had been distributed.

Cherne told the House Foreign Affairs Committee's subcommittee on Asia that the Cambodians receiving food live near the country's major cities although most of the nation's 4 million people live in the countryside.

According to some estimates, 2

million Cambodians face imminent starvation.

Cherne also complained that the severe shortage of doctors in the war-ravaged country has made care for malaria victims nearly impossible. He said only 51 doctors survived the rule of the now-deposed Pol Pot government.

Cherne said that if the Vietnamese-backed Cambodian government will not let in Western doctors, at least it should permit Soviet, East European, Cuban or Third World medical teams to care for the Cambodian people.

The absence of such efforts, Cherne said, has led the commission to conclude that "the Vietnamese government, with the concurrence and perhaps the encouragement of the Soviet Union, has adopted a conscious policy of withholding adequate relief from the Cambodian people."

Cherne added that the remnants of the Pol Pot forces have retreated into an isolated mountain area and no longer provide an adequate reason for the new Cambodian government from withholding aid for fear it might fall into enemy hands.

He also said many recent Cambodian refugees arriving in Thailand are coming from eastern provinces, meaning they crossed the entire country.

The shuttle, designed to glide back through the atmosphere on airplane-type wings for use in future missions, will carry satellites, experiments and scientists into space.

Its launch has been repeatedly delayed by problems with the engines.

Ali to train young boxers in China for '84 Olympics

PEKING, Dec. 19 (AP) — Deputy Premier Deng Xiaoping told retired world heavyweight boxing champion Muhammad Ali Wednesday that he can return to China to train young boxers for the 1984 Olympics.

"He made me the official representative of the Chinese Boxing Federation," Ali told reporters later.

"He said I can bring boxing to China, get boxing equipment and bring in boxers to put on an exhibition and just educate and train the boys for the 1984 Olympics," Ali said.

Ali met Deng for 20 minutes in the Great Hall of the People. They only discussed boxing,

said one of Ali's promoters. Ali extended greetings from President Jimmy Carter and Deng to his regards to the American president.

Deng told Ali that China is "worthy to be a friend" and said it is easy for the people of the United States and China to be friends.

Later Ali went to the Peking Friendship Store, the foreign community shops. He was immediately thronged by children and adults, mostly from Africa and Asia.

He threw a few playful punches with 7-year-old Noman Hasan of Pakistan, who later said, "Oh, he's so good."

Ali was to leave Peking at 9 p.m. on a chartered plane for Canton, then return to Hong Kong Friday. He was to tour a refugee camp Saturday.

Earlier Chinese sports officials told Ali that China would be taking part in some future boxing events.

Ali, who arrived Wednesday morning for a 9½-hour visit, offered during lunch with Chinese Olympics and sports officials to make a gift of boxing equipment. He also said he would like to return next year with his own gloves.

Chinese officials were pleased with the suggestion.

Boxing has not seriously been practiced in China since 1936 because of official disapproval, if not outright ban. But a variation of boxing is incorporated in traditional Chinese combat sports.



SAMURAI: Dressed like Samurai, these modern-day 'warriors' pass through the turnstile of a Tokyo subway Sunday. Armed with swords, pikes and other weapons, they were on their way to a weekend observance of a famous murder plot that place more than 200 years ago.

Vietnam warns Thais

Mrs. Carter hit over Cambodia

PEKING, Dec. 19 (AP) — Vietnamese Vice Foreign Minister Dinh Nho Liem Wednesday accused Rosalynn Carter of using aid to Cambodian refugees to advance her husband's campaign for the U.S. presidency.

He said this in a news conference after the 15th inconclusive Sino-Vietnamese peace talk meeting here.

Pressed later to say how Mrs. Carter was doing so, Dinh said she had used her recent visit to Cambodia to give the image of President Jimmy Carter as a humane man.

"But the most human action would be to eliminate Pol Pot's regime, one guilty of the worst kind of genocide," he said.

"Instead the U.S. government supports it."

Dinh blamed "technical difficulties" for delaying the aid program and said "we have been trying our best to facilitate it."

Those who accused Hanoi of obstruction were, he said, "bad elements."

He said many international organizations, including UNICEF (the United Nations Children's Fund), Oxfam and others had acknowledged that without Vietnamese help not nearly as much could have been done.

He said that thanks to the help of the Soviet Union, food shortages in Cambodia are coming to an end. He said a half million hectares of rice, ready for harvest, will

alleviate the situation.

Dinh also said China's offer to help Thailand in the event of a Vietnamese attack meant it wants to put "a military umbrella" over Southeast Asia, as the United States had done.

Those days are over, he said. He accused China of interfering with Vietnam's relations with the nations of Southeast Asia. He said if Thailand allied itself with China, this would do damage to the interests of the Thais.

It was apparent, he said, China wishes to use Thailand as a base to attack Laos, Vietnam and Cambodia.

Vietnam, he said, had repeatedly said it respects the integrity, independence and security of Thailand.

Soviet atomic expert hints at concern over hazards from plants

MOSCOW, Dec. 19 (AP) — The head of the Soviet Academy of Sciences has disclosed two episodes in which special scientific panels had been set up to investigate public complaints about health hazards of nuclear energy in the Soviet Union.

Academy President Anatoly Alexandrov Tuesday claimed that in both cases the complaints alleging increased rates of cancer and other illnesses were found to be scientifically baseless.

However, his mentioning the incidents during a new conference appeared to be another step in a recently emerging Soviet trend toward greater frankness in discussing the potential hazards of nuclear power.

In the past, Soviet scientists have been known to express privately their own misgivings over atomic energy. There is nothing here resembling an organized, public anti-nuclear lobby.

Soviet officials and the government-controlled news media have tended to ascribe the anti-nuclear movement in the West to misinformed hysteria or machinations by oil monopolies worried about a possible threat to their profits.

At Tuesday's news conference, Alexandrov and several other top-level scientific officials voiced a generally upbeat assessment of Soviet plans for developing nuclear power.

Andronik Petrovskiy, chairman of the State Committee for Utilization of Atomic Energy, said it was planned to raise nuclear

power's contribution.

He sought to downplay the significance of the Three Mile Island nuclear plant accident in the United States, asserting that a U.S. presidential commission found "nothing formidable, nothing complicated happened from the viewpoint of effects on the environment or people."

Alexandrov said that once past incident of public concern over nuclear power in the Soviet Union had focused on construction of an atomic plant in the early 1960s near Voronezh, about 600 kilometers south of Moscow.

Six soldiers die in Thailand after copter crashes

BANGKOK, Dec. 19 (AP) — Six Thai troops were killed Monday when their helicopter crashed into a mountain, a military spokesman said Wednesday.

The helicopter flew from Songkhla Province to a southern mountain district after receiving a distress call that one officer was wounded by a land mine while a team of officials was surveying the Thai-Malaysian border.

The spokesman said the helicopter could not land because of the difficult terrain and darkness of the night. Two of the troops climbed down a rope ladder to rescue the wounded. As the copter headed to their airbase, however, it developed engine trouble and crashed onto the rugged mountain.

Czechoslovak court hears appeals of jailed activists

PRAGUE, Dec. 19 (AP) — A court was to hear appeals from four of six human rights activists convicted in a subversive activities case here said.

The six were members of a human rights group calling itself the Committee to Defend the Unjustly Prosecuted. The group tried to provide publicity and other help for jailed dissidents.

They were accused of working with foreigners to create propaganda hostile to Czechoslovakia.

The six were among committee members arrested in crackdown raids May 29. They were held in jail until their trial, which was closed to all but family members and held in a closely guarded courthouse.

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Bank of England bulletin

Britons heading for recession

LONDON, Dec. 19 (R)—Britons were warned Wednesday night that they are headed for a recession next year, the recovery from which depends on whether they can conquer inflation.

The Bank of England quarterly bulletin said economic expansion in Britain had flattened out and was likely to give way to recession. It predicted that gross domestic product would decline in 1980 and that a recovery might set in by the end of 1981.

Whether that recovery was vigorous or limited would depend very much on the extent to which inflation had by then been reduced and productivity improved, the bulletin said.

The bank's report is part of a series of economic pronouncements being made about Britain at present, with productivity stagnating and inflation running at 17.2 per cent, one of the highest annual inflation rates among the indus-

trial democracies. Britons face the possibility of another winter of industrial unrest, with trade unions trying to protect their members against inflation by having high pay demands.

Margaret Thatcher's Conservative government, attempting to reawaken the British economy by a return to free enterprise and less government control, has had to raise interest rates — hitting the borrowings of home buyers — in order to contain the money supply. Mrs. Thatcher's popularity have recently fallen behind those of the Labor opposition which her party overthrew in last spring's election.

But the Bank of England's bulletin is less depressing than some other economic forecasts.

Although it expects the economy to contract by between one and two per cent in 1980, it sees only what it describes as a

modest rise in inflation in the months ahead, and argues that the trade figures could be in balance next year.

It says the recession could be short-lived — "likely to cause a sharp dip, not a continued downward slide, in activity."

House okays \$3.43b aid for Chrysler

WASHINGTON, Dec. 19 (AP)—A \$3.43 billion aid package for the ailing Chrysler Corp., including \$1.5 billion in government loan guarantees, won the approval of the House of Representatives Tuesday night.

The aid package, which must also win Senate approval, passed the House on a 271-136 vote.

The formula approved was a substitute for the Carter administration's proposal of \$1.5 billion in loan guarantees and an equal amount from other sources, with no specific amount of wage concessions.

The House formula calls for \$400 million in wage concessions from hourly wage earners and \$100 million in wage concessions from white collar workers.

It also would require the automaker to come up with \$650 million in bank loans, \$300 million from the sale of Chrysler assets, \$250 million from state and local governments, \$180 million from suppliers and dealers and \$50 million from the sale of newly issued stock.

The House rejected by a vote of 295-114 a motion designed to add to the bill a three-year wage freeze bitterly opposed by the United Auto Workers, which represents the bulk of Chrysler's 113,000 employees.

Backers of the aid measure said it was needed to prevent a Chrysler bankruptcy that would throw at least 360,000 employees of Chrysler and its dealers and suppliers out of work.



PRESS CONFERENCE: Willy Brandt, former Chancellor of West Germany, addressing the press conference after the ICIDI (Independent Commission on International Development Issues) meeting held during the week-end. Edward Heath, former British Premier, is seen in the center and Katharine Graham of America at left.

Keen competition

Georges Bank oil rights bid upon

PROVIDENCE, Rhode Island, Dec. 19 (AP)—The U.S. Interior Department received bids Tuesday on 73 of 116 offshore oil and natural gas leases as the much-delayed sale of Georges Bank drilling rights got under way.

The sale, scheduled to begin at 10 a.m., was delayed when U.S. Supreme Court Justice William J. Brennan requested time to study a last-minute bid by the state of Massachusetts and environmentalists to halt the auction.

Brennan rejected the challenge from Massachusetts attorney general Francis X. Bellotti and the Conservation Law Foundation, who contended drilling might harm the area's rich fishing grounds.

The sale originally was set for Jan. 28, 1978, but was blocked by a federal judge on environmental grounds.

In Providence, meanwhile, oil companies started submitting bids

Monday afternoon for the still available tracts in the Georges Bank. The tracts, each 23 square kilometers in size, are located 100 to 240 kilometers off Cape Cod. Federal geologists estimate the

116 tracts contain a potential lion cubic feet of natural gas.

By Norwegian ministry Oil operating rights offered in 3 blocks

OSLO, Dec. 19 (AP)—The oil and energy ministry Wednesday offered Norwegian companies Saga Petroleum, Statoil and Norsk Hydro the rights to operate the three first blocks on the Norwegian continental shelf north of the 62nd Parallel.

Saga was offered Block 6507-12 at Haltenbanken off the north Norwegian coast with a 10 per cent ownership in that block. ELF Aquitaine of France was offered a technical consultancy with a 20 per cent ownership. Norsk Hydro was offered 5 per cent ownership and Statoil, the Norwegian state oil company, will hold 50 per cent.

Statoil was offered operating rights on Block 7119-12 in the same north Norwegian waters. Here Esso was offered the technical advisor job with 25 per cent ownership. Norsk Hydro was offered 10 per cent and Saga 5 per cent.

Norsk Hydro was offered operating rights at Block 7130-12 in the same area with 15 per cent ownership. Here Conoco was offered the technical advisor job

with 25 per cent ownership. Statoil will hold 50 per cent in Blocks 7119-12 and 7130-12 and has option for up to 80 per cent in case oil and gas is found.

The companies are expected to reply to the offers early January and the parliament is expected to approve licenses later in January, the ministry said.

Iran doubles rice import from Thailand

BANGKOK, Dec. 19 (R)—Iran has more than doubled its annual import order of rice from Thailand, following suspension of sales by the United States. Thai deputy commerce minister said Wednesday.

Prok Amaramand told reporters that Iran has ordered 100,000 tons of rice through private traders, compared with the usual of between 30,000 and 50,000 tons. Iran normally buys up to 500,000 tons from the United States, he said.

Foreign Exchange Rates

Quoted at 6:00 P.M. Wednesday

	SAMA	Cash	Transfer
U.S. Dollar	3.37	3.377	3.3725
Pound Sterling	7.41	7.46	7.45
Deutsche Mark (100)	194.00	196.00	195.25
Swiss F (100)	210.00	213.00	211.00
French F (100)	83.00	83.40	83.40
Italian Lira (10,000)	42.00	42.50	41.85
Lebanese Lira (100)		102.00	102.00
Syrian Lira (100)		78.50	86.90
Egyptian Pound		4.50	4.62
Kuwaiti Dinar		12.31	12.35
Jordanian Dinar		11.35	11.38
Emirates Dirham (100)		89.50	89.80
Qatari Rial (100)		91.25	91.25
Bahraini Dinar		8.95	8.95
Iranian Rial (100)		—	—
Iraqi Dinar (100)		9.50	—
Yemeni Rial (100)		74.50	74.10
Moroccan Dirham (100)		80.00	89.00
Indian Rupee (100)		—	41.90
Pakistani Rupee (100)		—	34.20
Gold kg.		53,800.00	—
10 Tolas bar		6,125.00	—
Silver kg.		—	—
Japanese Yen (1,000)	14.41	—	14.18
Canadian Dollar	2.87	—	—
Belgian Franc (1,000)	120.00	119.00	—
Dutch Guilder (1,000)	176.00	176.00	176.50
Spanish Peso		51.00	51.15
Greek Drachma (1,000)		80.00	—
Philippines Peso (1,000)		—	47.00
Singapore		—	1.57

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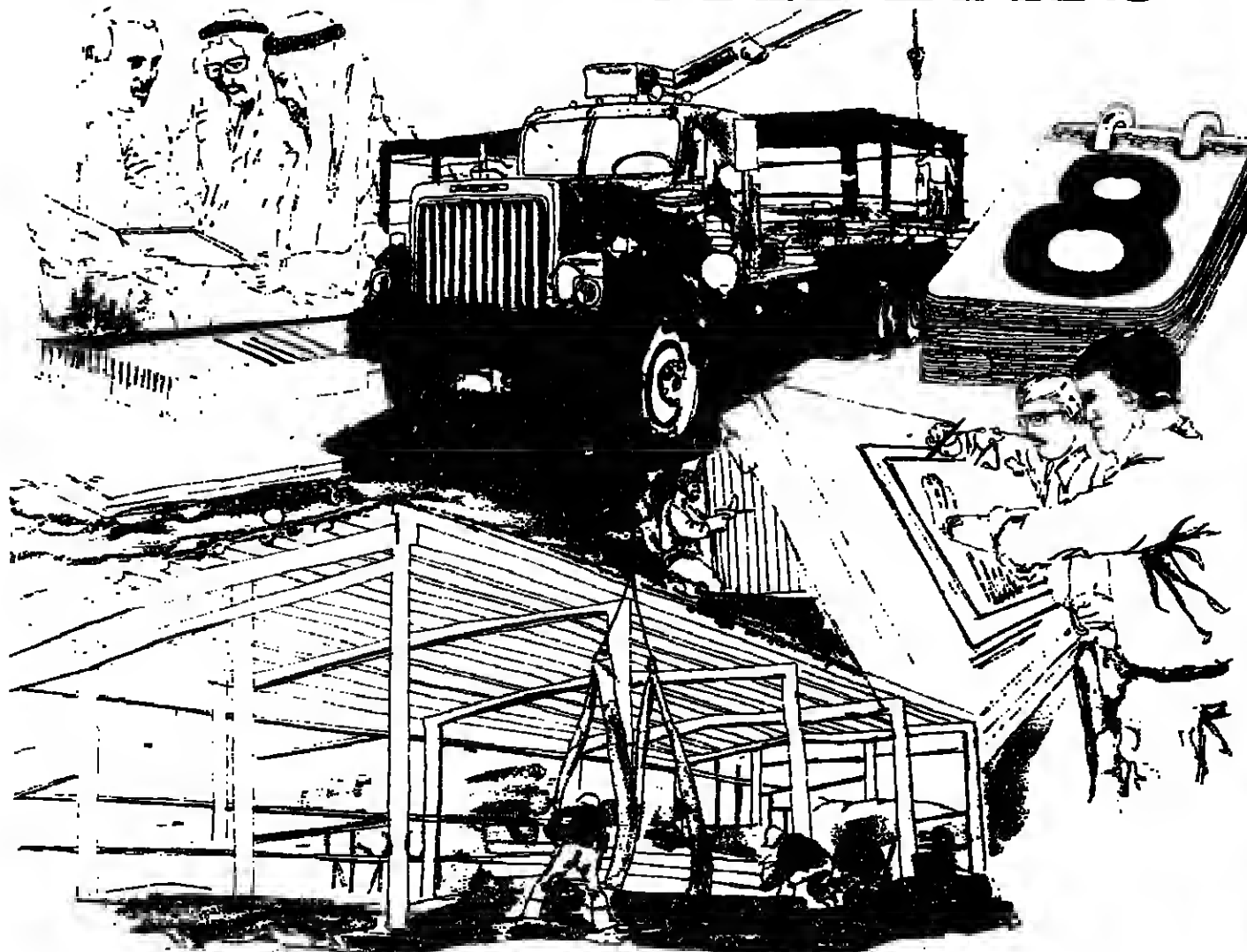
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Saudi Arabian Government Tenders

Authority	Description	No. of Tender	Price SR	Closing Date
Directorate of Education, Medina	Construction of the fifth instalment of ordinary schools	200		Dec. 30
" " "	Construction of the sixth instalment of ordinary schools	200		Jan. 1
" " "	Construction of the seventh instalment of ordinary schools	200		Jan. 1
Municipality of Al-Omran	Supply of insecticides and other chemical materials	99/1400	500	Jan. 8
Directorate of the National Guard	Additions to the shooting ranges in Bahra, Western Province	19-99/400	300	Jan. 1
" " "	Additions to the shooting range in Absa	18-99/400	300	Dec. 31
" " "	Supply of spare parts for Landrovers and Rangerovers	20-99/400	1000	Jan. 5

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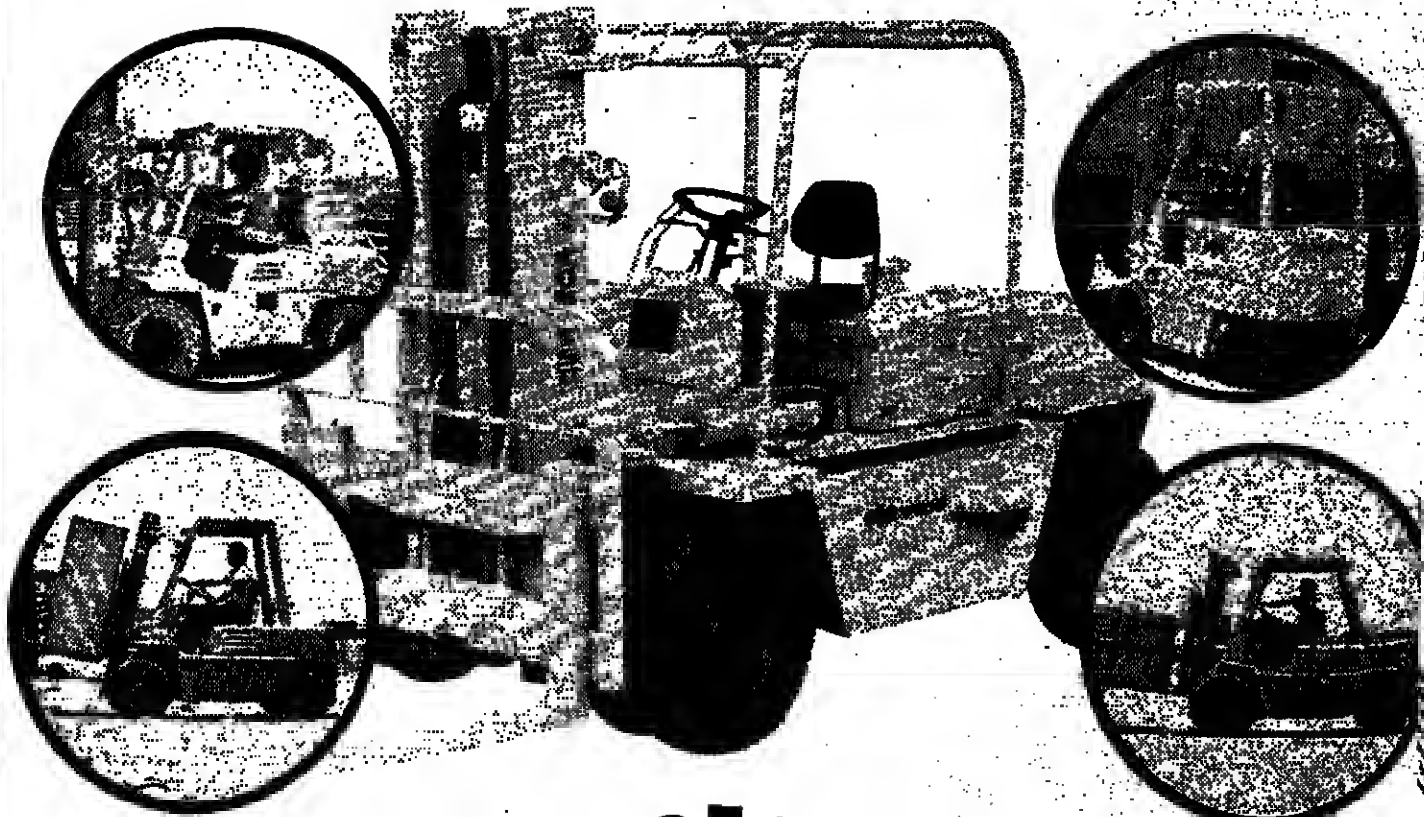
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By 138 runs

Australia defeats England in Test

PERTH, Dec. 19 (R) — Australia beat England by 138 runs in the first Test with an hour to spare Wednesday, despite a brave 99 not out by England's veteran opening batsman Geoff Boycott.

Boycott, 99 batted with a skill Brearley keeps souvenir coin

PERTH, Dec. 19 (AP) — England cricket team captain Mike Brearley intends to keep the special gold coin he was given after winning the toss in the first Test against Australia.

The coin, donated by the Gold and Silver Bullion Sales of Australia, was worth about \$700 for its gold content alone, but Brearley has already refused an offer of \$1,000, saying he would keep the coin.

and determination that his teammates could not match as he fought a rearguard action after it became apparent early on the final day that England's victory target of 354 was beyond them.

Resuming Wednesday at 19 for ome, England fell further into trouble when Peter Willey was out leg before wicket in the second over of the day. The rest of England's leading batsmen also performed disappointingly and it was always a question of whether or not England could save itself.

There still seemed a chance until Graham Dilley, who stayed with Boycott for an hour after tea, went for the eighth wicket, also to Dymock, then Boycott watched helplessly as Derek Underwood lost his wicket for no runs and he threw his head back in despair when Bob Willis became the last man out.



PACE: Australia's Dennis Lillee bowls in the second day of the first Test in Perth. Fielder Jeff Thomson and England's Mike Brearley, poised to run, watch.

After vote to cut ties

British ban saddens Kenyan rugby union

NAIROBI, Dec. 19 (R) — The Rugby Football Union of East Africa (RFUEA) says it was saddened at the decision by the Supreme Council for Sport in Africa (SCSA) to put a ban on African sporting relations with Britain.

Brian Mills, a RFUEA official, said the RFUEA would wait for word from the Kenya National Sports Council (KNSC) before

Holmes, Tate to defend separate titles in March

NEW YORK, Dec. 19 (AP) — Larry Holmes and John Tate, the two world heavyweight champions, will both defend their separate titles March 31.

Tuesday sources close to the two fighters said Holmes would defend the World Boxing Council title against Leroy Jones of Denver and Tate would defend the World Boxing Association championship against Mike Weaver of Los Angeles.

Holmes and Tate were

cancelling all Kenyan tours by British rugby sides, a main feature of Anglo-Kenyan sporting exchanges, scheduled for next year.

The SCSA passed a resolution at its general assembly in Yaounde Monday night for the ending of links between its 48 member states and Britain because of British relations with South African

sports.

The KNCS will put the decision into effect after meeting on Friday to study a report from its Yaounde delegation, said Council Chairman Charles Mukora.

Mukora had expected the SCSA's endorsement of a total African participation in the Moscow Olympics next year, with the warning that it would seek the exclusion of Britain from the Games if the British Lions rugby union team toured South Africa next year.

This other step against Britain takes me by surprise. I have to wait for our delegation's briefing on the matter," Mukora said.

Mills said: "Our rugby owes a lot in competition and development to British tour sides and it really upsets me to know that we are going back to where we were before February this year."

Until February, Kenya had upheld an SCSA directive to ban all contacts with British sport. The Kenyans later reduced the action to affect only rugby, soon after the British Lions defied protests to

tour South Africa in 1974.

Mills said his organization would again advocate the resumption of relations with British rugby in case the KNCS decided to confine the ban to their sport.

After the Kenyan lifting of the ban in February this year, two British club sides toured the country.

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After the Kenyan lifting of the ban in February this year, two British club sides toured the country.

In Midwest Division

Kings take slice of lead

KANSAS CITY, Missouri, Dec. 19 (AP) — The Kansas City Kings posted their seventh straight victory Tuesday night to regain a share of the lead. They beat the San Diego Clippers 110-96 to move into a tie with Milwaukee atop the National Basketball Association's Midwest Division at 20-14. The Bucks were idle Tuesday.

Scott Wedman scored 26 points for Kansas City, which got off to a 5-11 start but has since won 15 of 18 games.

Unknown Harlow through in F.A. Cup

LONDON, Dec. 19 (R) — Schoolteacher Micky Mann gave ooo-League soccer club Harlow the biggest success in its history Tuesday night with a goal which took it through to the next round of the English Football Association Cup.

Mann's coolly-taken goal in the 61st minute gave Harlow a 1-0 home win over Third Division club Southend in their second round replay and earned the ooo-League club a third round tie at Leicester.

It was a victory gained by determination, hard work and a considerable amount of skill. The goal came when Southend's Tony Hadley made a mistake, giving the ball to Harlow's Neil Prosser, whose perfect pass into space presented Mann with a chance which he took with confidence and power.

Croydon, the other ooo-League club in action, lost its replay against Third Division Millwall but only just. It was a 2-2 after 90 minutes and John Mitchell got Millwall's winner in the 10th minute of extra time, making the final score 3-2.

Wolverhampton Wanderers won through for a semifinal against Liverpool in the Football League Cup by defeating Third Division rival Grimsby 2-0 in their quarter final second replay.

After a goalless draw in the original match and a 1-1 draw after extra time in the first replay, the tie was in its 260th minute when Wolverhampton took the lead with a controversial penalty from which Ken Hibbitt scored.

Results Tuesday night:

European Under 21 Championship (at hours)
Scotland 2 Belgium 2

English League Cup, quarterfinal second replay (at Derby)

Wolverhampton 2 Grimsby 0

F.A. Cup, Second Round

Northwich vs. Wigan — postponed, field waterlogged.

Queens Park Rangers 2 Chelsea 2

Leeds United 1 Barnsley 0

Sheff Wed 3 Swindon 3

Wimbledon F.A. Cup, Second Round replays

Millwall 1 Shrewsbury 1

Southend 0 Millwall 3

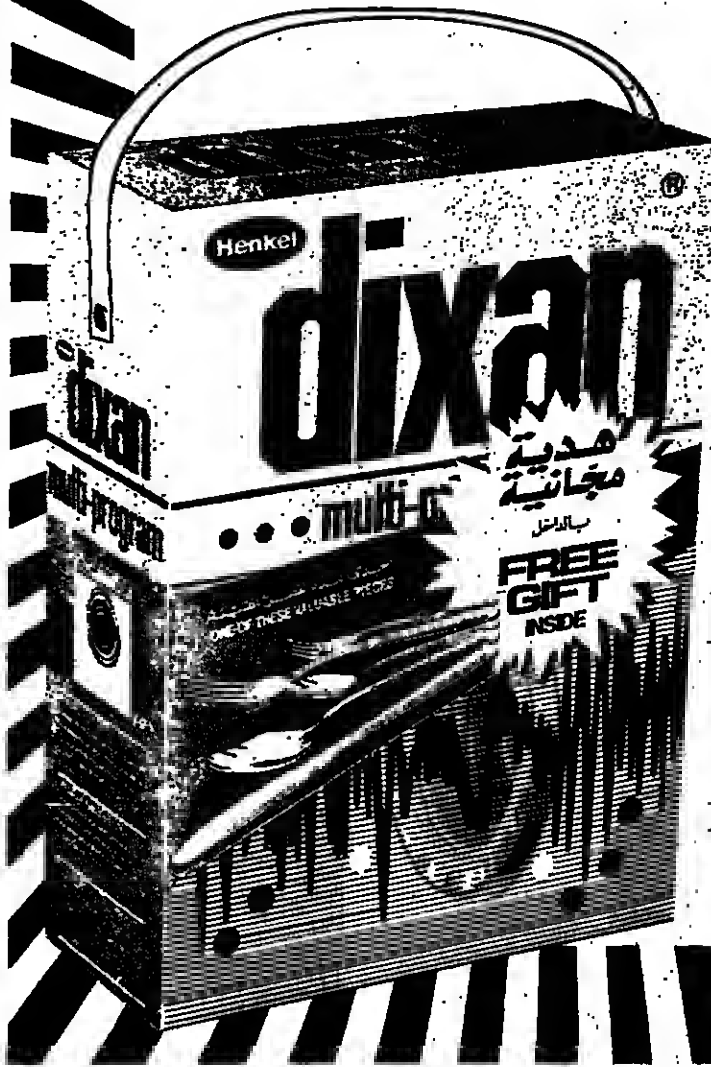
Croydon 2 other extra time

Northwich 2 Tranmere 1

York 0 Bury 2

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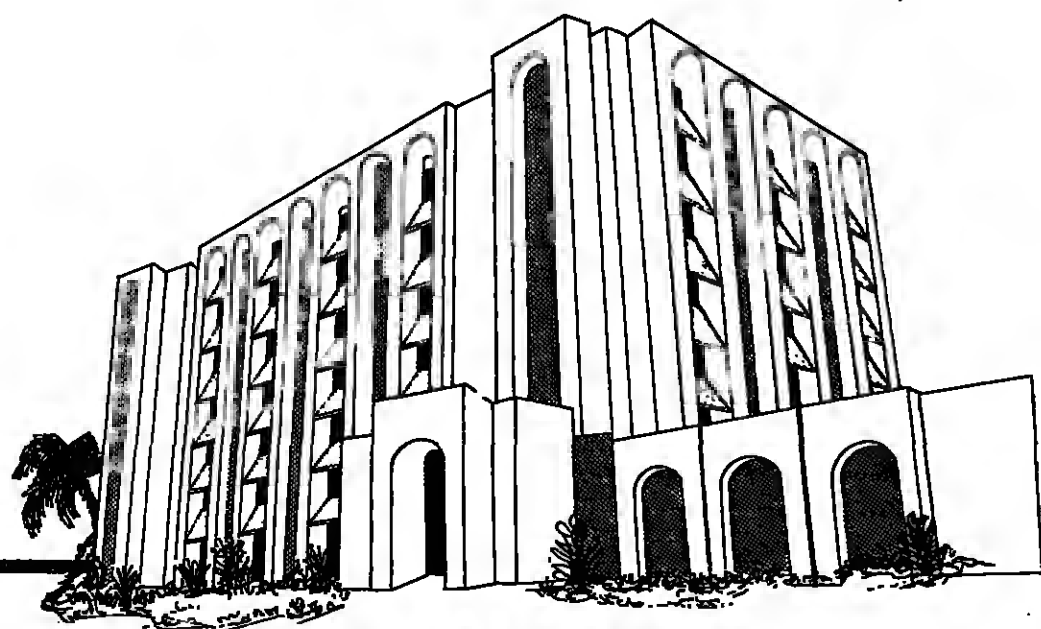


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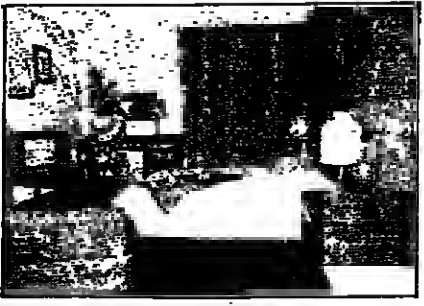
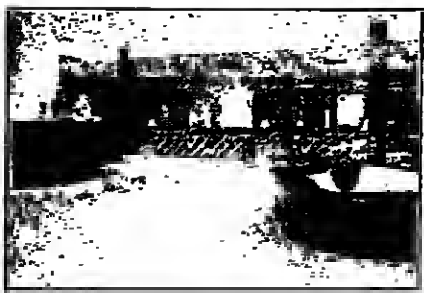


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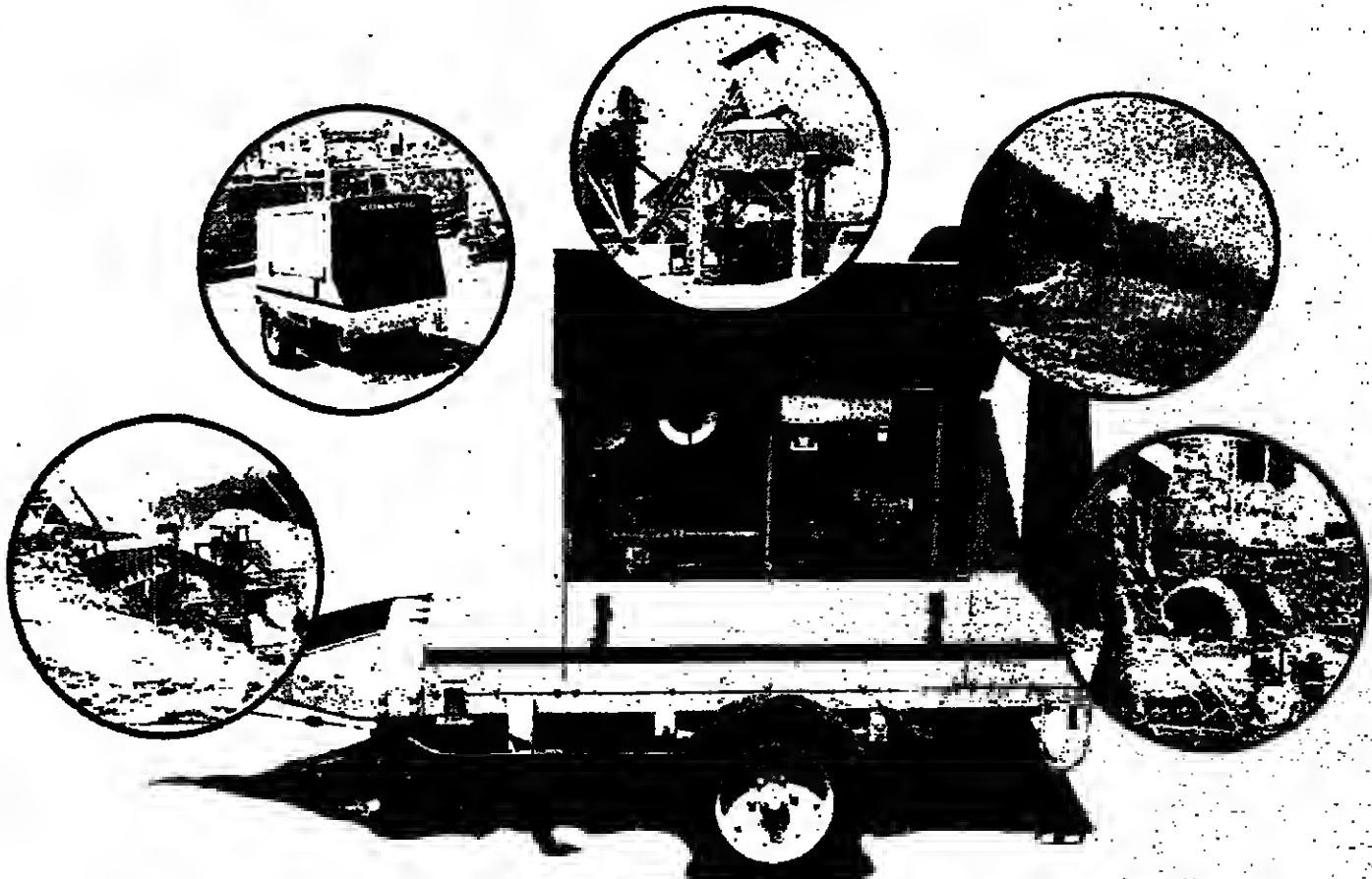
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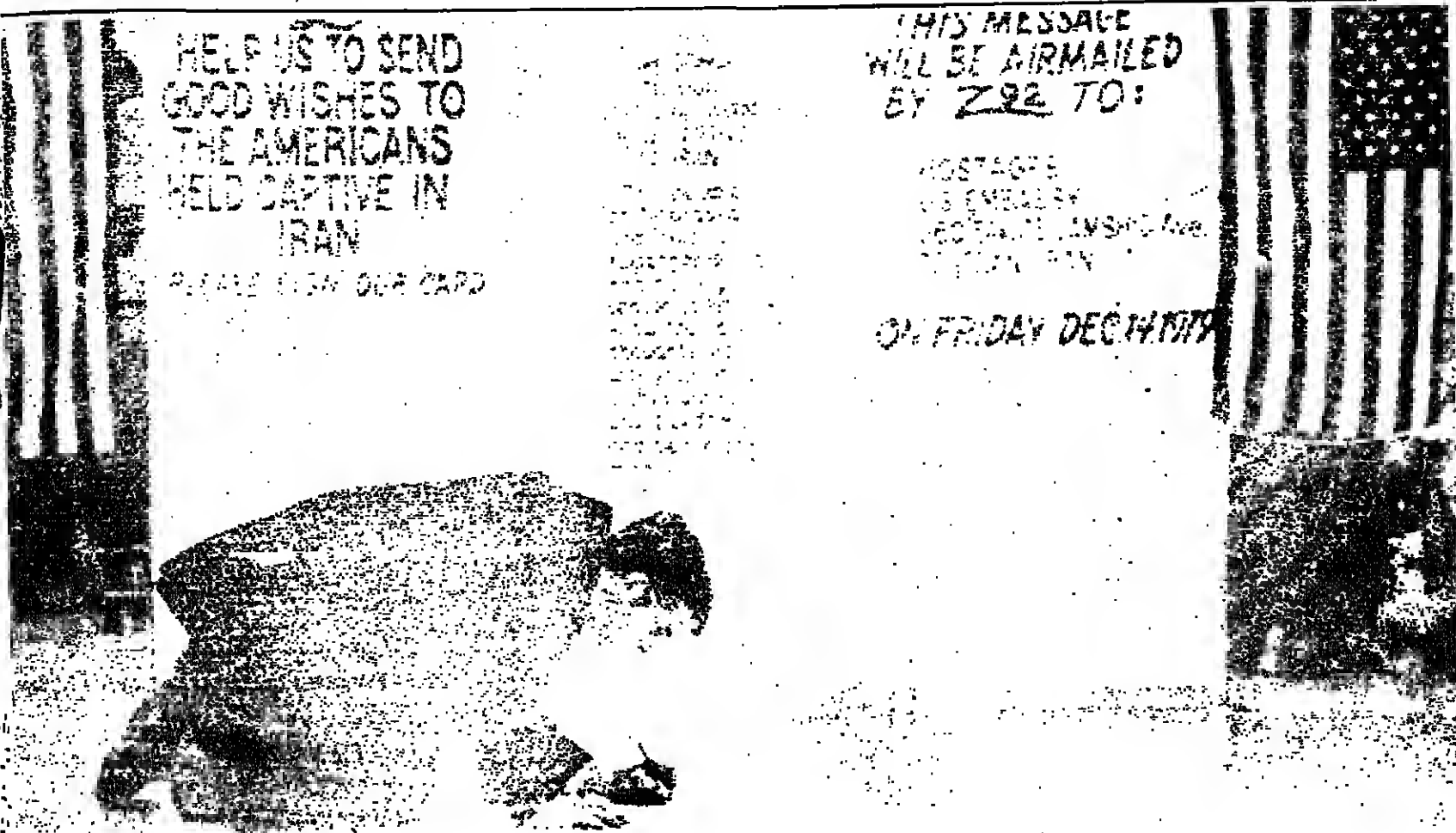
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هكذا من العمل



KEZO-FM, a radio station in Omaha, Nebraska, has set up a large card to be sent to the Americans in Tehran.

Thousands
in America
are sending
letters to
the hostages
held since
November 4



A crowd outside the embassy chant "Death to Carter," "Death to America."



An angry mob outside the embassy in Tehran denounced the Shah's move to Panama.



Ayatollah Khomeini accepts the homage of the crowd in Qom

Their captors say the letters will be delivered
Fifty Americans have been captives in Tehran for over six weeks



Mail arrives by the sack-ful for the hostages.



Alex Peen, left, radio newsman for a Los Angeles station walks to the embassy with an Iranian woman to deliver mail to the hostages.

WIZARD



CROSSWORD PUZZLE

Famous Hand

West dealer.
North-South vulnerable.

NORTH			
♠ J 8 6 5 3 2			
♥ 10			
♦ Q 7 3			
♣ 10 5 3			
SOUTH			
♠ A K 9			
♥ K 4 3			
♦ K J 5 2			
♣ A K 6			

WEST **EAST**

♠ Q 10 7 4 ♠ A 9 8

♥ J 8 7 6 ♥ K 4 3

♦ Q 9 8 6 4 ♦ K J 5 2

♣ - ♣ A K 6

SOUTH

♠ A Q 9 5 2 ♠ A 9 8

♥ A ♥ K 4 3

♦ Q J 9 8 7 4 2 ♦ K J 5 2

♣ - ♣ A K 6

The bidding:

West	North	East	South
Pass	Pass	2 NT	3 ♦
Pass	Pass	3 ♦	3 ♦
Pass	Pass	3 ♦	3 ♦
Pass	Pass	3 ♦	3 ♦

Opening lead — six of diamonds.

This response did not sit well with Grievs, who retreated to five clubs. After two passes, East — with 2 high-card points including the A of trumps — doubled. This proved to be a grievous error when it turned out that the contract was unbeatable.

Dorcy won the trick and led the ace, played the ace of hearts, ruffed a heart, ruffed a spade, ruffed another heart on which the king fell and gave up two trump tricks to make five clubs doubled.

At the second table, the bidding went as follows:

West	North	East	South
Pass	Pass	2 NT	Pass
3 ♦	Pass	3-0	Pass
3 NT			

Swazani, playing with Soloway, was South at the table and passed two times notrump because the play was

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Najmi Drug Store	Al-Suq Al-Sagir	44930
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Al-Hijaz Pharmacy	Al-Hijaz Road	
Al-Ikhas Drug Store	New Shamsi Street	
TAIF		
Jamal Drug Store	Al-Shargina	
Okaz Street	King's Street	
Al-Sharq Pharmacy		

ARAB NEWS CALENDAR

PRAYER TIMES

Thursday	Fajr	Ishraq	Dhuhr	Asr	Maghreb	Isha
Mecca	5:34	6:01	12:24	3:29	5:46	7:16
Medina	5:38	7:04	12:26	3:24	5:40	7:10
Nejd	5:05	6:35	11:53	2:52	5:08	6:38

DHAHRAN TV

4:30	Children's Show	Sesame Street No. 1193
	Safety Film	I'm no fool As A Pedestrian
5:55	Sanford And Son	The Wedding
6:25	Operation Petticoat	Dooley is a Daddy
6:49	Oregon Trail	Evan's Vendetta
7:37	Man in a Suitcase	Find the Lady
8:26	Baretta	It's a Boy
9:09	Warship	The Prize

VOA

P.M.	News Summary
8:00 News Roundup :	10:30 VOA Magazine :
Reports : Actualities :	America ; Science ;
Opinion : Analyses :	Cultural ; Letter
8:30 Dateline	11:00 Special English : News
News Summary	11:30 Music USA : (Jazz)
9:00 Special English :	VOA WORLD REPORT
News; Feature. The	Midnight
Making of a Nation	
News Summary	
9:30 Music USA :	12:00 News newsmakers'
(Standards)	voices correspondents
10:00 News Roundup :	reports background
Reports : Actualities	features media
10:05 Opening : Analyses	comments news analyses.

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THURSDAY
Afternoon Transmission

12:00-1:00 Afternoon Transmission	Evening Transmission
1:00 Opening	9:00 Opening
1:01 Holy Quran	9:01 Holy Quran
1:05 Gems of Guidance	9:05 Gems of Guidance
1:10 This Week's Landmark	9:10 Light Music
1:20 Top of the Pops	9:15 Muslim Worldwide
1:30: ———	9:45 Eve and Her World
1:50 Classical Music	10:00 Youth Welfare
2:20 On Islam	10:10 Music
2:30 Jazz Music	10:15 NEWS
3:00 NEWS	10:25 S.A. — A Daily Chronicle
3:10 Press Review	10:30 The Evening Show
3:15 Music	11:00 World Classics
3:20 Islam The Divine Truth	11:10 ———
3:30 A Selection of Music	11:15 African Music
3:50 Cutdown	11:45 A Rendezvous with Dreams
	12:00 Cutdown

(French Service)

Morning Transmission	Morning Transmission
8:00 Ouverture	7:00 Ouverture
8:02 Lumiere sur le Coran	7:02 Versets et Commentaires
8:15 Musique	7:15 Musique
8:30 Bonjour	7:30 L'arabe par la radio
8:35 Varietes	7:45 Musique entre amis
8:45 Occident et Orient	8:15 Jeunesse et Sport
8:50 Varietes	8:20 Varietes
9:00 Informations	8:30 Informations
9:10 Lumieres sur les	8:40 Revue de presse
9:15 Varietes	8:45 Musique
9:20 Flambeau de Islam	8:55 Cloture
9:45 Musique	11:10 Music
9:59 Cloture	11:15 Nashville
Evening Transmission	11:45 A Rendezvous with Dreams
	12:00 Close Down

BBC

Morning Transmission


8.00	World News	4.30	The Pleasure's Yours
8.09	Twenty-Four Hours	5.15	Report on Religion
	News Summary	6.00	Radio Newsreel
8.30	Sarah Ward	6.15	Outlook
8.45	World Today	7.00	World News
9.00	Newsdesk	7.09	Commentary
9.30	Opera Star	7.15	Sherlock Holmes
10.00	World News	7.45	World Today
10.09	Twenty-Four Hours	8.00	World News
	News Summary	8.09	Books and Writers
10.30	Sarah Ward	8.30	Take One
10.45	Something to Show You	8.45	Sports Round-up
11.00	World News	9.00	World News
11.09	Reflections	9.09	News about Britain
11.15	Piano Style	9.15	Radio Newsreel
11.30	Brain of Britain 1978	9.30	Farming World
12.00	World News	10.00	Outlook News Summary
12.09	British Press Review	10.39	Stock Market Report
12.15	World Today	10.43	Look Ahead
12.30	Financial News	10.45	Ulster in Focus
12.40	Look Ahead	11.00	World News
12.45	The Tony Myatt	11.09	Twenty-Four Hours :
Evening Transmission			News Summary
1.15	Ulster in Focus	12.15	Talkabout
1.30	Discovery	12.45	Nature Notebook
2.00	World News	1.00	World News
2.09	News about Britain	1.09	World Today
2.15	Alphabet of Musical	1.25	Financial News
Curios		1.35	Book Choice
2.30	Sports International	1.40	Reflections
2.40	Radio Newsreel	1.45	Sports Round-up
3.15	Premiere Concert	2.00	World News
3.45	Sports Round-up	2.09	Commentary
4.00	World News	2.15	The Face of England

Your Individual Horoscope


Frances Drake

FOR THURSDAY, DECEMBER 20, 1979

What kind of day will tomorrow be? To find out what the stars say, read the forecast given for your birth Sign.

ARIES
(Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) 
Avoid disputes with a co-worker. Others may not take

kindly to advice. Be low-key with a stubborn person. Hunches are accurate.

TAURUS
(Apr. 20 to May 20) 


A critical attitude can mar entertainment plans. Questions of intimacy have the potential for argument. Watch fixed opinions.


GEMINI
(May 21 to June 20)
Don't be sarcastic with loved ones. Irritability causes

you trouble. There could be a disagreement about a domestic matter.

CANCER
(June 21 to July 22) ♋♊

Consider the feelings of others when stating viewpoints. Little things irk. Keep mentally cool to ward off inefficiency.

LEO (July 23 to Aug. 22)  A loved one may be critical of your spending habits. If overtired, why not go to bed

VIRGO
(Aug. 23 to Sept. 22) 
Sedate, critical—

pickling qualities are to the

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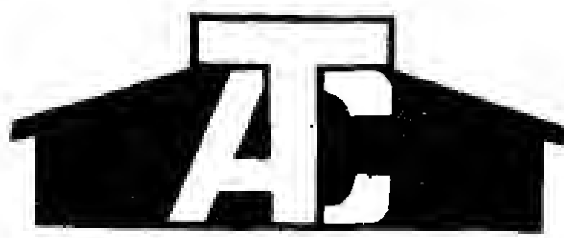
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PAGE 16

International

الخميس - الجمعة ١ - ٢ صفر ١٤٠٠ هـ

On The Loose

By Michael J. Hall

Here's hoping that the cool weather continues to hold in Jeddah at least through the Western holiday season, and preferably for a month or so beyond. What we've had so far has been great, especially compared to what I remember of last year, when the mercury seemed incapable of dipping below 90 on any given day.

The good weather — mild breezes and all — has been with us for almost a month now, and lately I've seen such strange sights as folks going around in sweaters, jackets and other items of clothing not normally associated with Saudi Arabia.

I'm told there's been a run on such things at clothing stores here, though travelers from Riyadh and other cooler parts of the Kingdom don't have to worry, and have even appeared getting off planes at the airport with snug smiles firmly in place.

There is a drawback to the cool, though, and it's a topic I mentioned here several weeks ago. Mosquitos, and more mosquitos. Get one under the sheets at night and you're liable to think you've come down with the measles when you wake up. At least that's been my experience. There are bites on parts of my body I didn't know I had, and in that hollow in the small of your back where it's impossible to reach ... enough said.

But all that will soon be figuratively as well as literally behind me. Leaving Saturday for some skiing and visiting in the U.S. But insects still haunt me. Do you suppose that while I've been here the mosquitos have eaten all my winter clothes?

Why wasn't I there department? Dick Vagstrom of Umea, Sweden, must have the touch. He pulled into his favorite parking lot, put a coin into the automatic ticket machine, and hit the jackpot.

The machine didn't give him the parking ticket, but it did rain out about 800 crowns (S 200) in coins. Vagstrom said passersby filled their pockets with the coins before police arrived.

He didn't say if he was among them. Nor was there any word on what went wrong with

the machine.

But wealth comes in a lot of strange ways. Gov. Durant of London spent 100 pounds having a carpet laid in his jewelry workshop ten years ago. Last week he burned it.

It wasn't that he didn't like the carpet. It had done its work well over the years. But gold dust had filtered down during the past decade, so that eventually 150 ounces had lodged itself inside the threads.

At today's prices of more than \$ 450 an ounce, that came to 31,000 pounds (\$ 68,000) when the carpet was melted down.

Durant admits that most jewelry workshops have plastic floors instead of carpets. But he says he thought the idea of a rug lent a touch of elegance to his workshop when he had it installed.

Now, he's convinced of that, and more. A new carpet will soon replace the old. "Why not?" he asked. "It's a good investment."

And I hear from Salisbury that British troops in Rhodesia to monitor the pending ceasefire have suffered their first casualty, and at the least their efforts have met with a setback.

Let me hasten to say it's not diplomatic, and it probably won't really affect the progress of peace in the rebel colony.

But the British no longer have their fancy new headquarters sign, after only two days in place. Sources there say the culprits are probably Rhodesian army soldiers who made off with the sign to install it in a mess hall.

From Russia comes the story of the coal miners' complaint. Workers at the Ukrainian Donbas coal fields are angry because they say their work is all for naught.

They complain that at least two million tons a year of the fuel are wasted when it spills out of old railroad cars used to transport it.

"This means that two of our mines are working purely for the sake of spreading coal all over the railway tracks," said a miner.

"The miners reckon that carrying coal in wagons like this is about as much use as carrying water in a sieve," another added.

At least they finally noticed. So much for "socialist realism."

Muzorewa delays signing ceremony

LONDON, Dec. 19 (AP) — British officials said Wednesday they have had word indicating Abel Muzorewa will arrive in London Thursday evening for a ceremonial signing of the Rhodesian peace settlement now set for Friday.

The information from British authorities suggested the former prime minister is now satisfied with the clarifications he had demanded from the British relating to "concessions" they made in secret talks with leaders of the Patriotic Front guerrillas last weekend.

Formal signing of the peace settlement, including a cease-fire in the seven-year bush war, had been scheduled for Wednesday. But Muzorewa, possibly as a gesture of political showmanship, declined to attend until the British explained to him the nature of the compromises they had reached with front co-leaders Joshua Nkomo and Robert Mugabe.

These compromises involved written undertakings by the British that the guerrillas would be allocated more assembly areas in the Rhodesian heartland for every 1,000 fighting men they could produce. The issue of the number and location of assembly areas was a major sticking point in the cease-fire talks.

British officials here have insisted that all



Abel Muzorewa

the concessions they made to Nkomo and Mugabe were cleared in advance with Muzorewa's colleagues in London, who last Saturday initiated the peace settlement.

It was this that led British authorities to speculate that Muzorewa's display of stubbornness was intended as a political demonstration which might be useful to him in the coming electoral contest against the Patriotic Front.

The signing ceremony, which Foreign Secretary Lord Carrington is due attend with Nkomo, Mugabe and Muzorewa, is to be held

at Lancaster House where the peace talks took place since Sept. 10.

In New York British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher said Tuesday that the Rhodesian peace agreement has opened the prospect of ending the isolation of South Africa in world affairs.

In a speech to the Foreign Policy Association, Mrs. Thatcher said, "There is now a real prospect that the conflicts on South Africa's borders, with Rhodesia and Namibia, will shortly be ended."

"This combined with welcome initiatives in South African domestic policies offer a chance to defuse a regional crisis...and to make progress towards an ending of the isolation of South Africa in world affairs."

In her speech Mrs. Thatcher warned that the 1980s would be a dangerous decade and called on the West to reach an agreement with oil-producing countries that would benefit both.

In her third major foreign policy speech in three months, she also continued her criticism of Iran for holding Americans hostage at the U.S. embassy in Tehran.

"Nothing can excuse the treatment they have received," she said. She added, in what a spokesman said was a general comment not specifically aimed at Iran:

"Those who seek to stir up trouble, whether in an effort to impose their own ideological theories or in a spirit of simple opportunism, will sooner or later have to pay a heavy price for their irresponsibility."

Mrs. Thatcher said she supported arms control measures, but warned that the Russians have yet to repudiate Lenin's warning that Communism and capitalism cannot live side by side.

"The Soviet government has not repudiated this threatening prediction. Indeed, they broadcast their ambitions wholesale. They should not be surprised if we listen and take note," she said.

She added, "We can argue about Soviet motives. But the fact is that the Russians have weapons and are getting more of them. It is simple prudence for the West to respond. We in Britain intend to do that to the best of our ability...."

Thatcher lauds Rhodesia peace

Support for hostages

U.S. celebrates 'Unity Day'

NEW YORK, Dec. 19 (AP) — Christmas cards by the thousands were addressed to the U.S. embassy in Tehran, flags reserved for special holidays were run up their poles and one city came to a halt for 50 seconds.

Frustrated Americans on Tuesday heeded the president's call for a National Unity Day in support of the hostages spending their 45th day of captivity at the U.S. embassy in Iran.

"America is as unified today as it has been at any time since World War II," said Vice President Walter Mondale as he arrived at the airport in Mount Vernon, Illinois.

At stores in at least 100 towns and cities across the nation, thousands lined up for a half-million Christmas cards given free by

merchants to send to the hostages at 260 Takhte Jamshid Avenue, Tehran, Iran. The senders had to pay for the postage; which came to 31 cents. Pens, writing tables, stamp machines and mail bags were provided in many stores and the cards were mailed on the spot.

"The thing that has surprised me so much is the time people spend writing in the cards," said Pat Stephenson, of merchant's association in Lincoln, Nebraska.

While a number of communities held vigils and prayer services, the city of Huntington, West Virginia, shut down for 58 seconds at noon as it will each day this week.

Colombian airliner missing

BOGOTA, Colombia Dec. 19 (AP) — A Satena Airlines DC-4 plane with 25 persons aboard disappeared on a local flight in bad weather Tuesday. Civil aeronautics officials said it may have landed in a "natural airstrip" found in the valleys of the region.

A Civil Aeronautics Board spokesman said the plane, flying between Arauca and Cucuta, was due at 1:20 p.m. (1820 GMT) in

Cucuta and their last radio contact was when it was flying over Santo Domingo military base.

The spokesman said there are numerous flat strips of land in the region that can be used as airstrips.

The pilot radioed the Cucuta tower that he was facing bad weather, the official said.

Satena Airlines is run by the Colombian air force and covers distant regions of the country which are not served by major airlines.

Is London all wet?

Floods threaten Piccadilly

LONDON, Dec. 19 (AP) — "We have all the ingredients of the worst disaster to hit London since the black death plague of the 14th century," says Stanley Bolton, chairman of the Public Services and Safety Committee.

"The flood now facing London would be the greatest natural disaster this country has ever faced. It would achieve in one night what months of Nazi bombing failed to do in World War II," says city official Peter Black.

It sounds like the plot of a disaster movie. But the flood threat to London is real, immediate and massive, according to officials of the Greater London Council. Not normally outspoken men, they resort to apocalyptic terms to describe it.

In a worst-case scenario, emergency plans envision billions of tons of muddy, debris-strewn water from the River Thames inundating 45 square miles of London, threatening 2.25 million lives and cutting the city in half.

All that is needed to release watery chaos is the right combination of weather and tides from the North Sea. The chances of the worst happening are put at 1 in 70.

In such a case, the water would pour into the subway system, drowning 50 stations and clogging the tunnels with silt. Fifteen power stations, 35 hospitals, 20 fire stations, seven ambulance depots and two main above-ground railroad stations would also be paralyzed.

Sewage from four treatment plants and filth from drains would back up in the pipes, threatening typhoid. Communications, gas and water works would also be knocked out.

Housing projects on the Isle of Dogs would stand in eight feet of water. The houses of Parliament and 10 Downing St. further up stream would be under three feet. On higher ground, the water would lap at the gates of Buckingham Palace.

Right now — December — is one of the likeliest times the disaster could occur, causing damage estimated at 3.5 billion pounds, around \$ 7.7 billion.

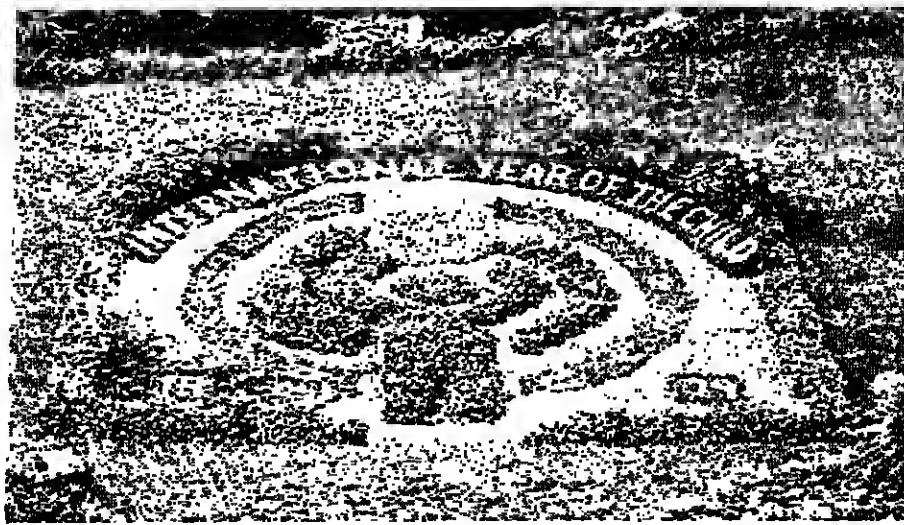
Until the world's highest movable flood barrier is completed across the Thames at Woolwich, 12 miles downstream from the city center, only luck holds back the water.

But work on the barrier, begun in 1974, is three years behind schedule and is now not expected to be finished until the end of 1982.

Until then, says Sir Herman Bondi, chief scientist at the Department of Energy who first suggested the barrier in 1967, the chances of catastrophe are 1.4 per cent. Risk of lesser flooding is nearly six per cent or 1 in 17, he says.

London has been flooded before in 1099, in 1236 — when a chronicler wrote that "in the great palace of Westminster men did row with wherries on the midst of the hall" — in 1663 and in 1928.

In 1953 the city narrowly avoided the sort of disaster Bondi fears now. East Coast sea defenses gave way, letting in the floods that otherwise would have surged up the Thames. More than 300 people died and 52,000 people lost their homes.



(Continued From Page 15)

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Trudeau agrees to lead his party

OTTAWA, Dec. 19 (AP) — Former Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau scrapped his retirement plans because of the downfall of the Conservative government and announced Tuesday he will lead his Liberal Party through the Feb. 18 election campaign.

It was "the single most difficult personal decision I have ever made," Trudeau told reporters.

"I have accepted the strong appeal of the National Liberal caucus and the National Liberal executive and I will lead our party in the current election campaign."

It was not known when Trudeau will begin his cross-country travels but Prime Minister Joe Clark, whose Progressive Conservative government fell last week, and Ed Broadbent of the New Democratic Party, are already out campaigning.

"My strongest desire was to leave politics and raise my family in Montreal," Trudeau said.

"I decided last night after two days of long consultation with friends and colleagues in the caucus and the party that because Canada faces more serious problems, because the government has been defeated and because our party faces an election, it is my duty to accept the draft of the party and that duty was stronger even than as desire to continue with my plans to re-enter private life."

Liberals reacted with joy, but Walter Baker, Conservative house leader, said "it was an act of political desperation" and New Democratic Party members of parliament said the move will help their cause.

Trudeau served as prime minister from 1968 until May 22, when Clark, an ousted candidate, led his Conservatives to a victory. Last month Trudeau announced he was leaving public life, saying the party needed new blood.

But last week, when Clark's government introduced an 18-cent increase in the gasoline excise tax, pushing it to 25 cents, opposition foes in the House of Commons brought down Clark's government with a no-confidence vote, forcing elections.

Clark was elected after a campaign promising economic reforms, while Trudeau pushed for federal solidarity, urging that separatist-minded Quebec be kept fully in the Canadian federation.

After his government fell last week Clark promised to again push for economic reforms, and although he rolled back the gas tax increase, said it was part of a move to make the nation more sound fiscally.

Trudeau, after announcing he would try to lead his Liberals to victory again, called the Conservative economic aims regressive and said its plan to put Petro-Canada, the government oil company, into private hands, was intolerable.

Before Clark's government was dissolved Friday, the Conservatives held 136 seats for a plurality in the 282-seat Commons. The Liberals held 114, including the speaker, the NDP had 27 seats and the Social Credit Party five.

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